

**STARRING! STEEL STERLING! SERGEANT BOYLE!
BLACK HOOD! MR. JUSTICE! ARCHIE!**

NO.
9

JACKPOT

10¢

G. M. L.



[illegible]

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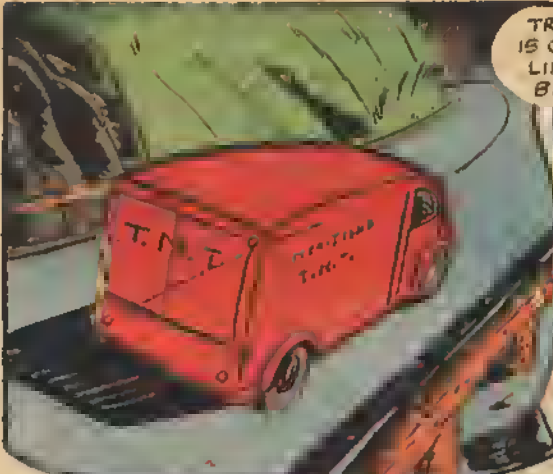
STEEL STERLING

THIS STORY BE-
GAN TEN YEARS
AGO.... WHEN HITLER
TOOK THE REINS OF
THE REICH INTO HIS
BLOODY HANDS! IT
WILL END WHEN
THOSE HANDS ARE
COLD IN DEFEAT--
OR DEATH!

THIS TALE IS MERE-
LY AN EPISODE IN THE
BOOK OF THE DOOM
OF NAZISM!
AN IMPORTANT EPI-
SODE! PERHAPS EVEN
A VITAL ONE! BUT
STILL ONLY AN EPI-
SODE!

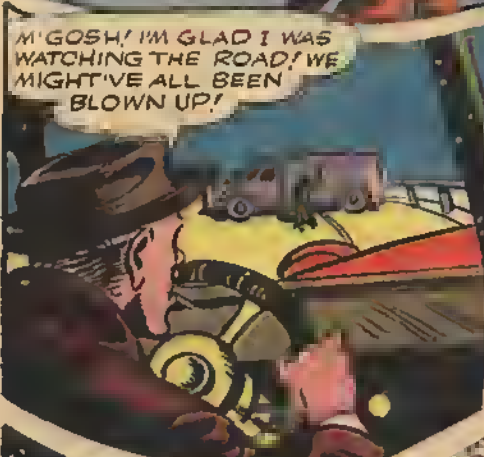


JOHN NOVICK



TRUCKING MUNITIONS IS ONE JOB I DON'T LIKE! THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW AGAINST IT!

YEAH! WELL THESE EMERGENCY RUSH ORDERS ARE UNUSUAL!



M'GOSH! I'M GLAD I WAS WATCHING THE ROAD! WE MIGHT'VE ALL BEEN BLOWN UP!



WHAT HAPPENED FELLA? CAN WE HELP YOU?

HIT A SOFT SHOULDER AN' SPUN AROUND! IF YOU COULD HELP ME GET...



IT NEFFER FAILS! DER AMERICANS HAVE SUCH A COOPERATIVE SPIRIT! IT IS SO EASY TO TRAP THEM!



DOT WAS A GOOT JOB! NOW HURRY UND UNLOAD DER MUNITIONS FROM DER TRUCK TO OURS!

NO WONDER YOU'RE CALLED HITLER'S AGENT! Y CERTAINLY GET THE RIGHT DOPE ON THESE JOBS!



DON'T WASTE ANYTIME! DER ELEMENT OF RISK ISS EFFER PRESENT!

THE NAZI LEADER FAILS TO SEE THAT HE DROPPED A PAPER FROM HIS POCKET WHEN HE PULLED OUT HIS CIGARETTES....

MEANWHILE AT F.B.I. HEADQUARTERS...

THINGS HAVE BEEN A LITTLE TOO QUIET AROUND HERE! I'M AFRAID SOMETHING BIG IS ABOUT TO BREAK! I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, STEEL!

WHAT? A MUNITIONS TRUCK HELD UP? DRIVER AND ASSISTANT KILLED? LOAD OF DEPTH CHARGES STOLEN? I'LL SEND A MAN OUT AT ONCE!

THIS LOOKS LIKE A WELL PLANNED PLOT! THE ORDER FOR THE DEPTH CHARGES WAS A FAKE! SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND OUT, STEEL! THE TRUCK'S ON THE RIVER HIGHWAY!

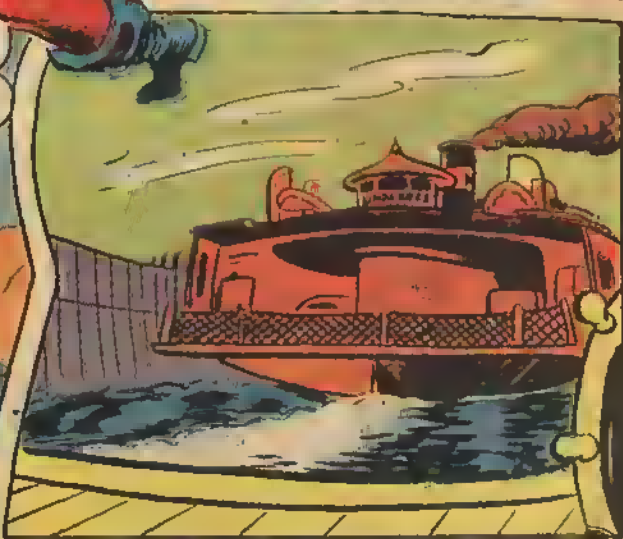
AT THE RIVER HIGHWAY!

HI, CLANCY DID YOU FIND ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE A CLUE? NOT A DARN THING, STEEL! NOTHING BUT A CIGARETTE BUTT AND A FERRY TIMETABLE!

HEY THIS MAY MEAN SOMETHING! THE 11:45 HAS BEEN CIRCLED! IT'S 11:40 NOW! IF WE'RE TO CATCH IT WE'D BETTER GET GOING!

Y'MEAN THAT'S A CLUE! GOSH! O.K. LET'S GO!

FERRY SCHEDULE

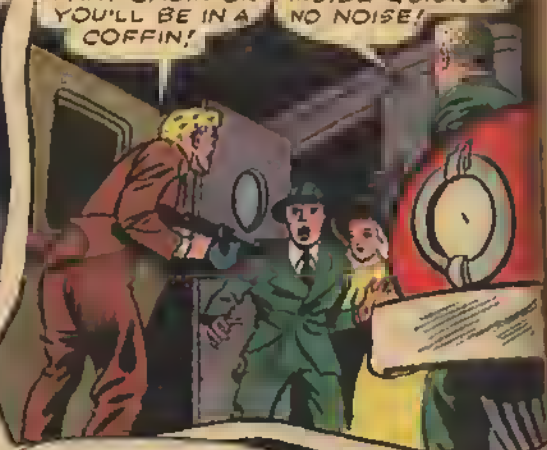


BOARD THE 11:45 FERRY IS THE TRUCK
THAT BLOCKED THE ROAD---



GO ON GET IN
THAT CABIN OR
YOU'LL BE IN A
COFFIN!

DOT'S RIGHT! GET
INSIDE QUICK AND
NO NOISE!



UNLOAD DER
DEPTH CHARGES UND
WHEN I SIGNAL BY WHISTLE
FROM OER PILOT HOUSE
THRO THEM OVER-
BOARD!



STAY AT DER
WHEEL UND STER
UP TO DER UNDER
RIVER TUNNEL, UND
ANY TRICKS UND
YOU VILL BE
DEAD!



LOOKS AS
IF WE'RE
TOO LATE!




WHERE'S
THE 11:45
FERRY?



THAT FERRY
LEFT FIVE
MINUTES AGO!

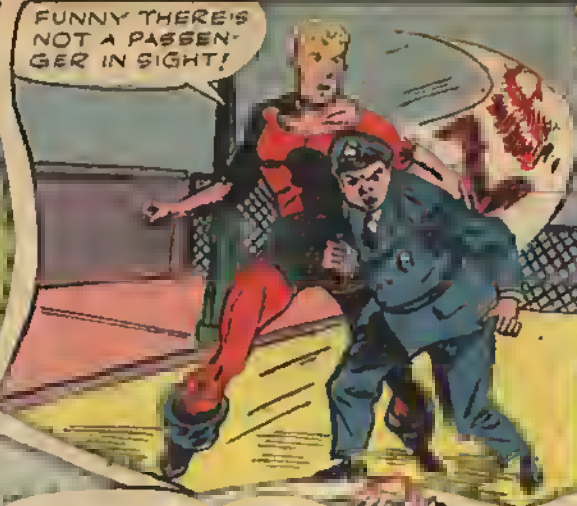
C'MON! WE'RE
GOING TO CATCH
UP WITH THE
FERRY BEFORE
IT LANDS!



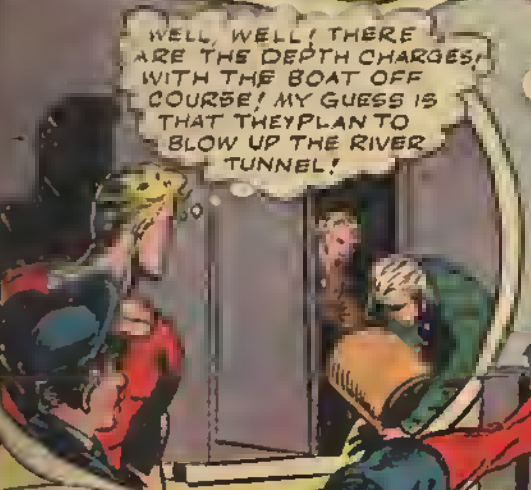


F'GOSH SAKES!
DON'T DROP
ME, STEEL!


THERE IT IS -- BUT
IT'S A WAY OFF
COURSE! LOOKS
AS IF MY HUNCH
IS RIGHT!



FUNNY THERE'S
NOT A PASSENGER
IN SIGHT!

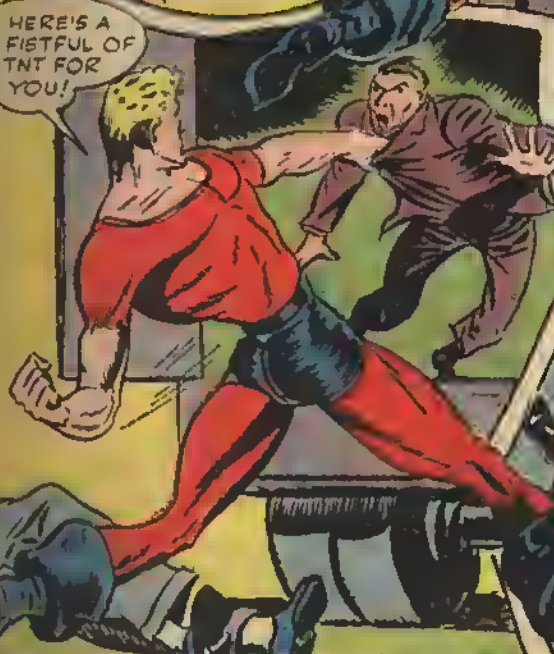


WELL, WELL! THERE
ARE THE DEPTH CHARGES,
WITH THE BOAT OFF
COURSE! MY GUESS IS
THAT THEY PLAN TO
BLOW UP THE RIVER
TUNNEL!




ACH! HIMMEL!
SOMETHING
ISS WRONG!

HOPE
I'M NOT
INTERRUPTING
ANYTHING
IMPORTANT!



HERE'S A
FISTFUL OF
TNT FOR
YOU!



YOU BOYS CER-
TAINLY DON'T
WEAR VERY
WELL! DON'T
YOU LIKE ROUGH
GAMES?



MY! MY!
WHAT'S THE
RUSH?

I'D LIKE YOU
BOYS TO MEET
EACH OTHER!

LOOKIT
THAT!
WHAT'LL
I DO
WITH
'EM!

LOCK THEM IN
THE BACK OF THE
TRUCK, CLANCY!
I'M GOING UP TO
THE PILOT
HOUSE FOR
A LITTLE
VISIT!



AHH! VONE
MINUTE MORE
WE REACH DER
TUNNEL! VAIT'LL
YOU SEE DER
EXPLOSION
WE MAKE!

GUESS
AGAIN, PAL!
THIS IS
WHERE I
TAKE OVER!

ACH!
VOT
ISS
HAP-
PENING!



OH BOY! NOW'S
MY CHANCE TO
CRACK OPEN THAT
NAZI'S FINE ARYAN
SKULL!



OH!
MUGOSH
I HIT THE
WRONG
GUY!

VOTA BREAK! DER
PLAN ISS WRECKED
BUT AT LEAST I CAN
ESCAPE!

FEW MINUTES
LATER----

GEE, YUH ALL RIGHT,
STEEL? THE RIVER
POLICE TOOK OVER
THE NAZIS
IN THE
TRUCK!

WE FOUND A PAPER ON ONE
OF THE PRISONERS THAT
MENTIONS A PLOT TO
BLOW UP THE NAVY
YARD! CAN'T FIGURE
HOW THEY
PLAN TO
DO IT!

IT WOULD
HAVE TO BE
A BOLO PLAN!
THEY'O NEE
TONS OF
MUNITIONS TO
CARRY OUT
SUCH A PLOT!

I'VE A FEELING THAT
SOMEONE INSIDE THE
MUNITIONS PLANT MIGHT
BE HELPING THE NAZIS!
THINK I'LL CHECK WITH
THE OWNERS
OF THE PLANT!

OK, STEELY
GOOD LUCK
TO YOU!

AT THE ATLAS
MUNITIONS PLANT--

CAN EITHER OF YOU GENTLE-
MEN THINK OF SOMEONE IN
YOUR PLANT WHO IS
HELPING
THE NAZIS!

SOMEONE
IN OUR
PLANT?

CAN'T
THINK OF
A SOUL,
CAN YOU,
JIM? WE'LL
TAKE
EXTRA PRE-
CAUTIONS
FROM
NOW ON
THOUGH!

I AGREE
WITH MY
BROTHER,
GEORGE!
Y'KNOW A
BARGE LOADED
WITH FREIGHT
CARS OF MUNITIONS
IS LEAVING THE
PLANT AT TEN, TONIGHT,
MAYBE YOU'D LIKE
TO COME ALONG!

FINE! MEANWHILE
I'M LEAVING SER-
GEANT CLANCY TO
WATCH THE DOCK
FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITIES!

AT F.B.I HEADQUARTER---

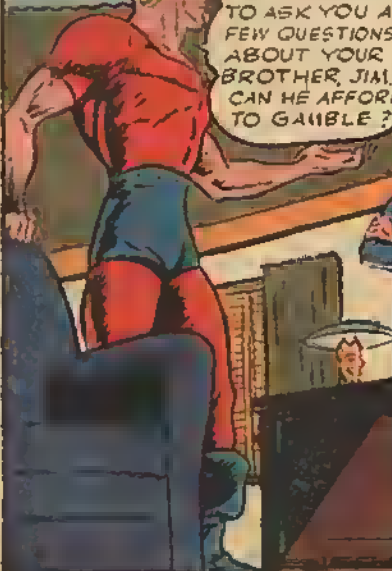
HMM-- THIS INFORMATION ON GEORGE AND JIM CARTER, OWNERS OF THE PLANT IS MOST INTERESTING ESPECIALLY THE RECENT ITEM ABOUT JIM!



WE WILL PAY YOU 50,000 DOLLARS FOR YOUR PART IN OUR PLOT! DOT IS WORTHWHILE ISN'T IT, CARTER?



AT THE MUNITIONS PLANT THAT NIGHT--



I CAME A BIT EARLY BECAUSE I WANT TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BROTHER, JIM! CAN HE AFFORD TO GAMBLE?

GAMBLE? WHY NO! AS A MATTER OF FACT, HIS INCOME IS LOW BECAUSE WE'RE OPERATING ON A NON PROFIT BASIS FOR THE DURATION!

ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY---

DER PLAN FOR TONIGHT WILL NOT FAIL AS THE TUNNEL PLAN DID! WE MAKE SO BOLD A MOVE THE FBI WOULD NEFFER DREAM OF IT! ACH OER PHONE!



ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO IT ON ONE CONDITION! I'LL HANDLE MY END OF THE DEAL IF YOU'LL GET RID OF MY BROTHER! HE IS GETTING TOO INQUISITIVE!

VOT! STERLING HAS BEEN YOUR PLANT! YOU WANT TO GO OUT! DON'T BE A FOOL! CAN'T POSTPONE IT! WE'LL RUN ALL DER RISK! I'LL GET A TUG AND MY MEN AND I'LL PICK UP DER BARGE HALF HOUR EARLIER! DOT'S STERLING WILL MISS DER



DOT'S DOT! IT'S ALL SET! WE PICK UP DER BARGE AT TEN THIRTY! WHEN WE REACH DER NAVY YARD WE CUT IT LOOSE AND DER CURRENT WILL SWEEP IT INTO DER NAVY YARD! I WILL HAVE A TIME BOMB ON THE BARGE TO START THE FIREWORKS!



THEN HE MUST BE GETTING MONEY FROM ANOTHER SOURCE! HE LOST OVER TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS RECENTLY! DO YOU THINK HE'D SELL OUT TO THE ENEMY?

IT'S TERRIBLY HARD TO IMAGINE MY BROTHER AS A TRAITOR! BUT I'D RATHER FIND OUT THE TRUTH THAN SHOW THEM TO YOU!



MEANWHILE AT THE DOCK... GOSH I WISH STEEL WAS HERE! THE BARGE HEADS INTO MIDRIVER...



I'VE JUST HAD WORD FROM MY BROTHER, GEORGE, THAT STEEL ISN'T COMING! THE TUG IS READY TO LEAVE! DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?

OH, NO! THERE'S VERY LITTLE DANGER OF EXPLOSION! THE MUNITIONS ARE WELL PACKED! THE CHIEF DANGER IS FIRE OR AN EXPLOSION THAT WOULD SET THEM OFF!

MEANWHILE AT THE PLANT WHERE STEEL HAS SEEN THE PAPERS GEORGE FOUND---

THESE PAPERS PROVE YOUR BROTHER IS GUILTY! I SHOULD GET OVER TO THE BARGE NOW!

WHY YES IT WILL BE LEAVING IN A FEW MINUTES!

GOOD LORO! IT'S GONE!



I'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT BARGE! IT'S PROBABLY HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE NAVY YARD! THERE'S ENOUGH MUNITIONS ABOARD TO BLOW IT OFF THE MAP!

WE SHOULD BE PASSING THE NAVY YARD NOW! IT'S RIGHT NEAR THE BRIDGE!

DOT'S RIGHT! UND DOT'S AS FAR AS YOU'RE GOING! UP WITH YOUR HANDS!



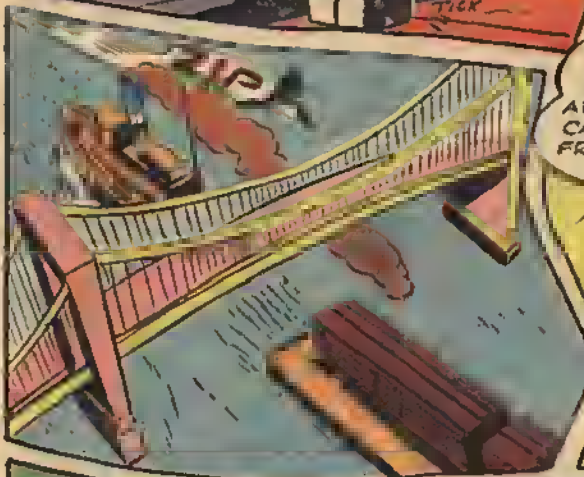
BO! I PUT DER TIME BOMB HERE!
VEN IT EXPLODES DER WHOLE
BARGE VILL BLOW UP! BY THE
VAY CARTER, IT ISS YOUR
BROTHER GEORGE WHO HELPED
US! AS PART OF THE BARGAIN I'M
SUPPOSED TO KILL YOU! HE'S
AFRAID YOU VERE SUSPICIOUS!



ALL RIGHT MEN! AS SOON AS
VE REACH DER BRIDGE CAST
OFF DER ROPES SO DER
BARGE VILL DRIFT FREE!

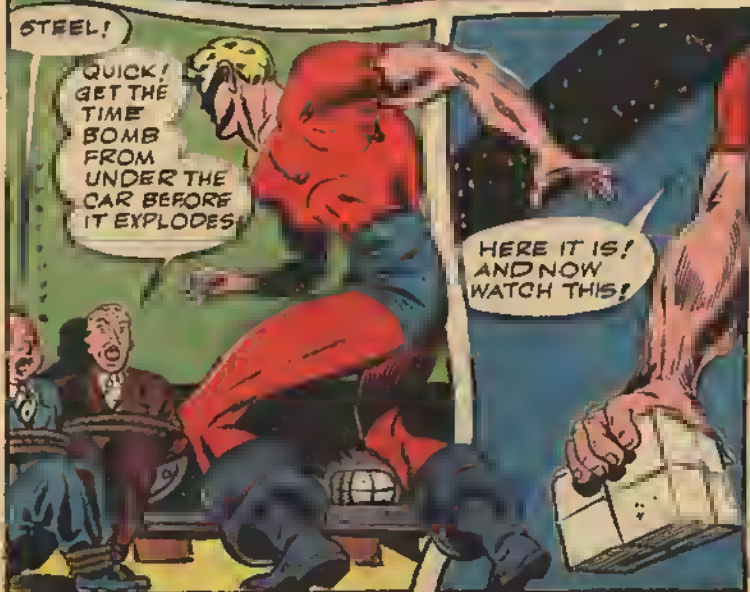


I'M TOO
LATE! THEY'VE
GET THE BARGE
ADrift! I HOPE I
CAN STOP IT
FROM EXPLODING!



STEEL!

QUICK!
GET THE
TIME
BOMB
FROM
UNDER THE
CAR BEFORE
IT EXPLODES!



HERE IT IS!
AND NOW
WATCH THIS!

THAT'S A
SURPRISE
PACKAGE
THEY NEVER
EXPECTED!





THERE ARE A FEW THINGS I'D LIKE TO KNOW! HOWD IT HAPPEN THAT THE NAZIS WANTED TO KILL JIM CARTER?

"GOSH! DON'T YOU KNOW STEEL GEORGE CARTER IS THE GUY BE ORDERED 'EM TO KILL HIS BROTHER! THE NAZI LEADER SAID SO!"



WELL, HERE COMES THE NAVY TO TAKE OVER! NOW WE CAN KBER A LITTLE DATE WITH YOUR BROTHER! HE CERTAINLY BUILT A MEAN CASE AGAINST YOU, JIM!



WE'RE TOO LATE! HE KILLED HIMSELF! THERE'S A NOTE ON THE DESK!

There was no explosion from the bomb so the plan failed. Before I kill myself I must confess. I alone aided the saboteurs. I planned to frame my brother in case of a prison. Knowing his weakness for gambling I gave him a large sum saying it was an inheritance to put him under suspicion. I also planted the evidence should anything happen. I decided it would be better to have him killed so I could own the business myself. I kept a promotion that the plot has been successful so rather than being caught I took my own life! *George Carter*

THAT NOTE CLEARS UP THE LAST FEW POINTS! YOUR BROTHER SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN ACTOR, HE SURE HAD ME FOOLED!

THANK YOU, STEEL! I NEVER KNEW HE WAS GREEDY FOR MONEY! HE MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE TO HELP THE NAZIS!

WELL, CLANCY, WHAT D'YA SAY WE TAKE A FERRY BOAT RIDE, BEFORE WE GO HOME?

NO, THANKS, PAL! IVE HAD ENOUGH BOAT RIDES TO LAST ME A LIFE-TIME!



WELL, HE TRIED TO MAKE AMENDS BEFORE HE DIED!



Archie

YOU NO FORGET-
ARCHIE TO
DELIVER DAT A
FISH FOR ME!
I ALREADY PAY
YOU FOR IT!

DON'T WORRY,
TONY, IT'S AS GOOD
AS DONE! THE
ANDREWS SUPER-
XPRESS SERVICE
NEVER FAILS A
CUSTOMER!

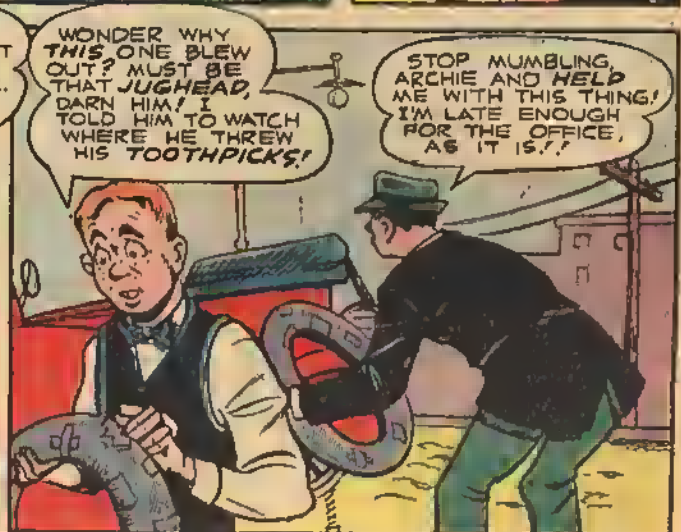
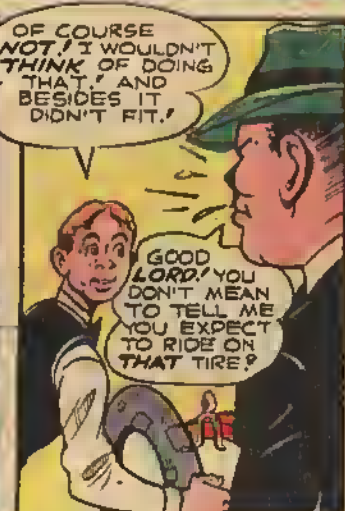
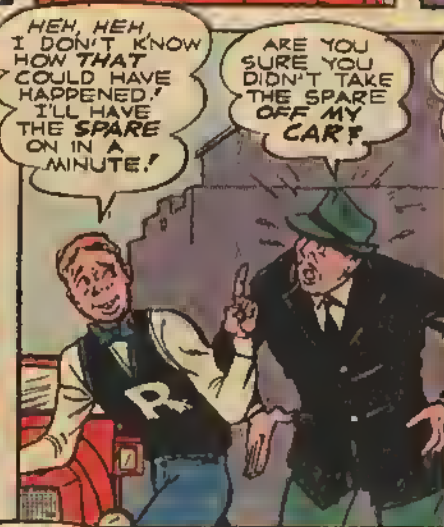
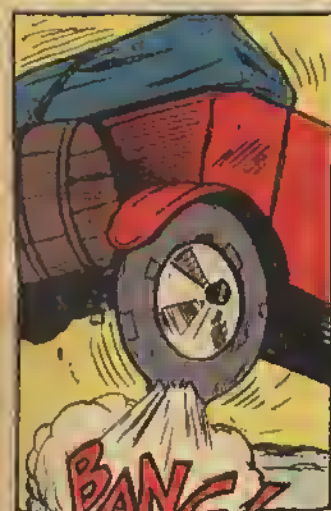
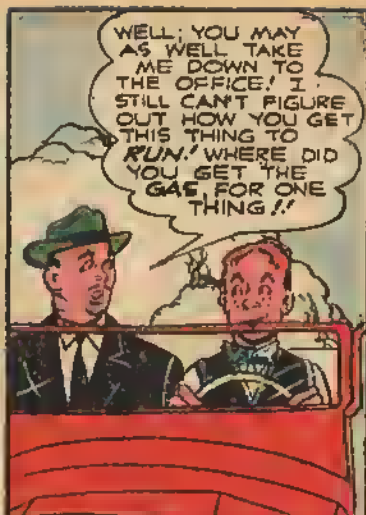
KINDA LATE!
I DON'T THINK
IT'D MAKE MUCH
DIFFERENCE IF I
MADE THE DELIVERY
FIRST THING IN
THE MORNING!

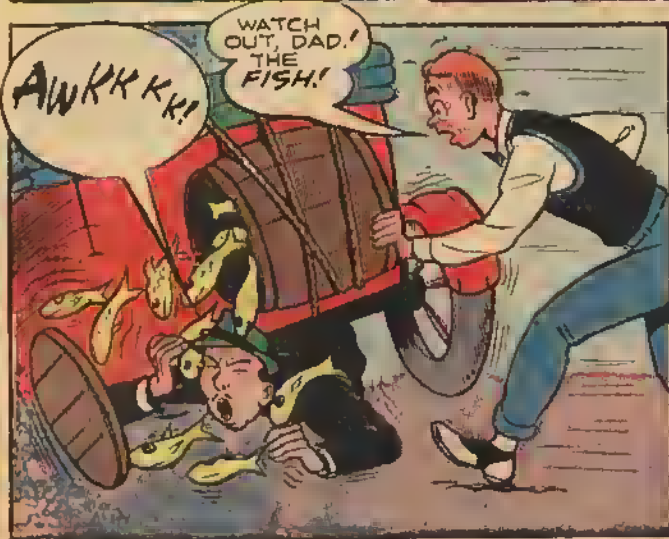
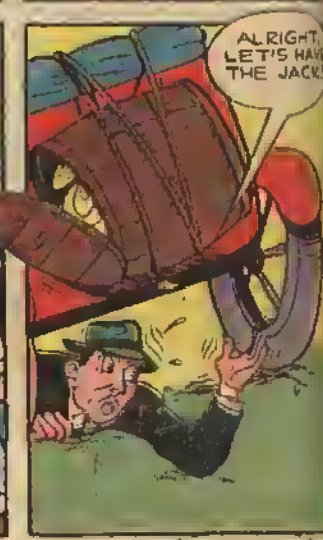
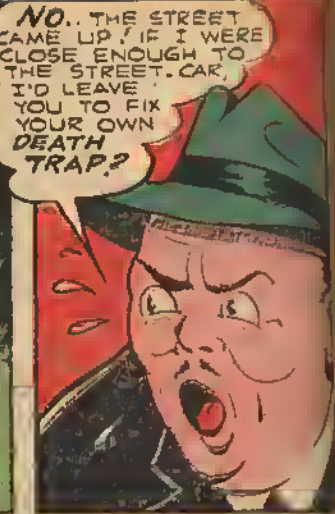
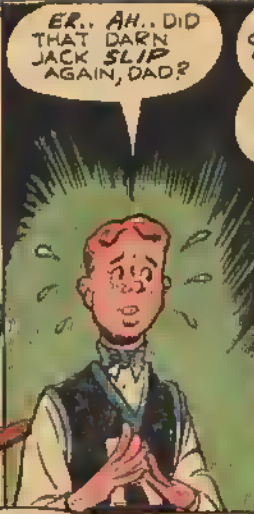
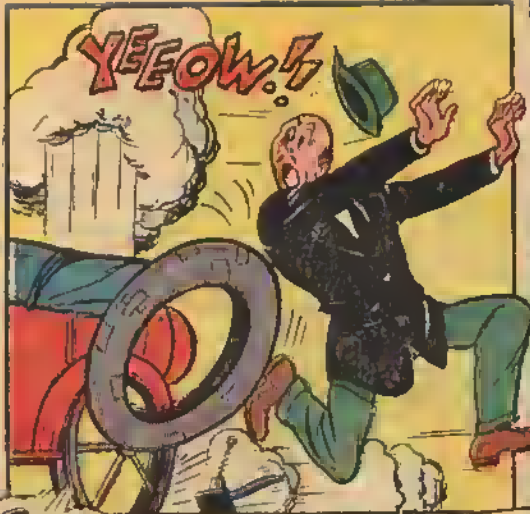
COMES
THE DAWN...

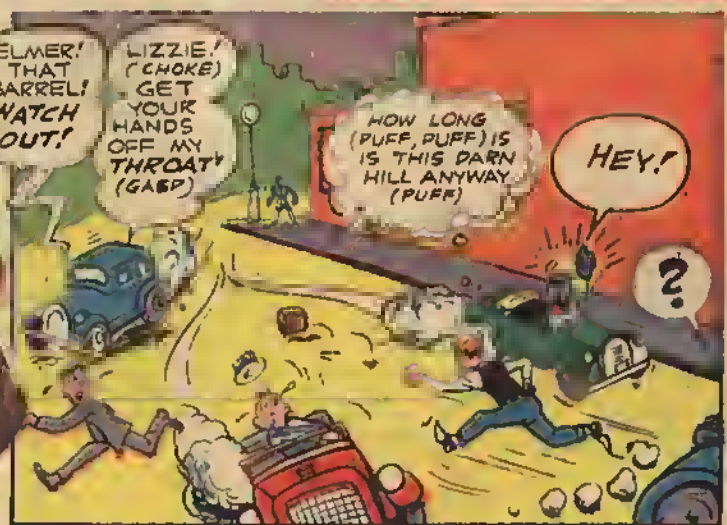
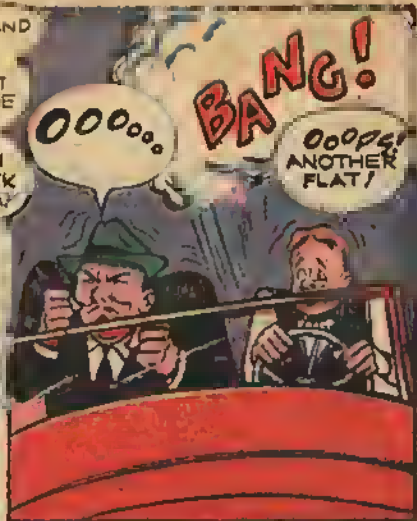
OH! F! DARN
THIS COLD
WEATHER! MY
CAR WON'T
START!

'MORNING
ARCHIE! SAY,
YOU DON'T BY
ANY CHANCE
THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO START
THAT JALOPY
OF YOURS!

WHY
NOT
DAD??







HEY! YOU!
ARE YOU THE
WISE-GUY WHO
THREW THAT
FISH BARREL
DOWN HERE?



OH, OH! I DON'T
THINK HE'S IN
ANY MOOD
TO LISTEN
TO REASON!

I'M TELLIN'
YOU FOR
THE LAST
TIME.. GET
THOSE FISH
OFF THIS
STREET!
THEY'RE
SMELLIN'
THE
WHOLE TOWN!

BUT OFFICER!
MY SON'LL
BE HERE
ANY
MINUTE,
AND...



THERE HE
IS, NOW! WHERE
IS THAT BARREL,
ARCHIE??

I.. B
AH...



ARE YOU
GONNA GET
THOSE FISH AND
THAT JUNK-HEAD
OUTTA HERE
??

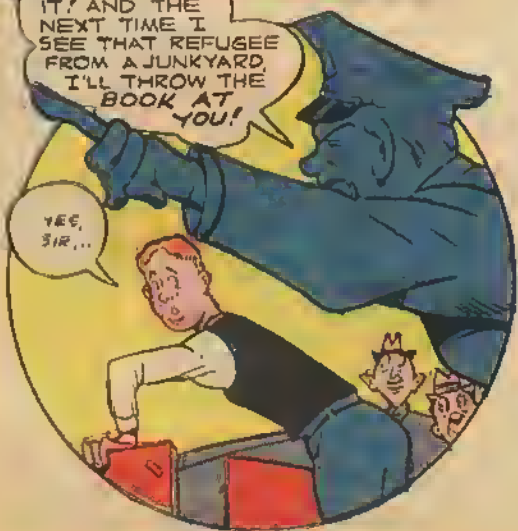
I LOST
IT, DAD!

OWOOO!!



NOW, BEAT
IT! AND THE
NEXT TIME I
SEE THAT REFUGEE
FROM A JUNKYARD,
I'LL THROW THE
BOOK AT
YOU!

YEE,
SIR...

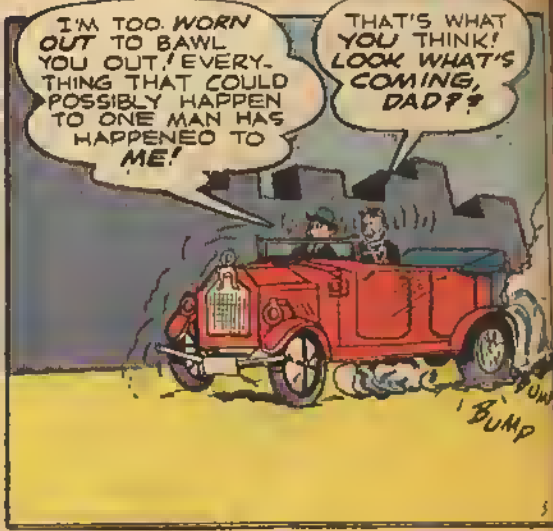


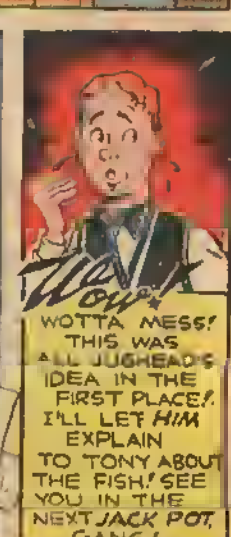
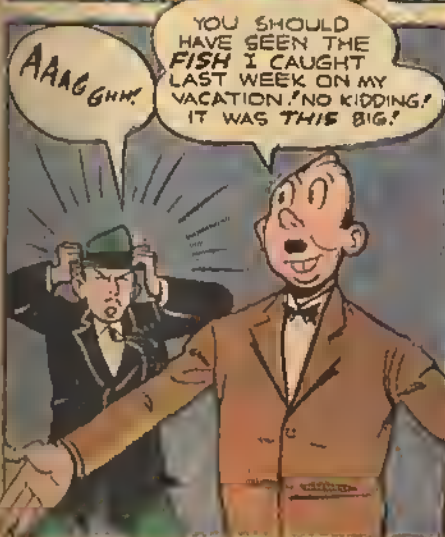
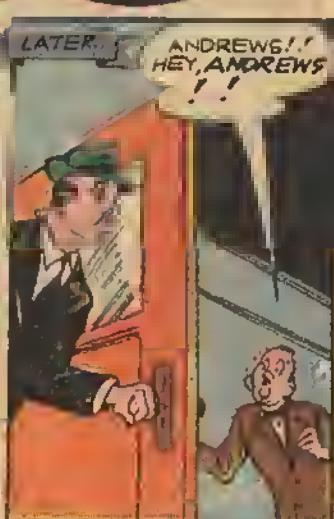
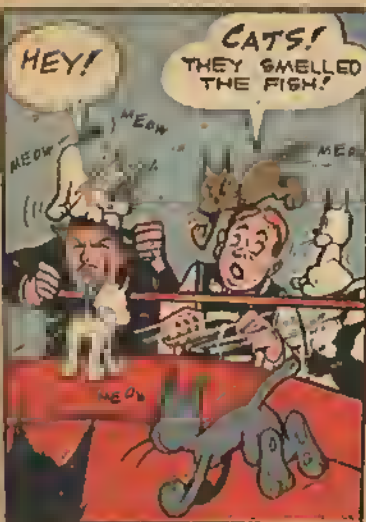
ALL RIGHT,
ALL RIGHT, OFFICER!
DON'T GET EXCITED!
COME ON ARCHIE!
WE'LL THROW
THEM INTO
THE CAR!



I'M TOO WORN
OUT TO BAWL
YOU OUT! EVERY-
THING THAT COULD
POSSIBLY HAPPEN
TO ONE MAN HAS
HAPPENED TO
ME!

THAT'S WHAT
YOU THINK!
LOOK WHAT'S
COMING,
DAD??





Puzzles

CHESTER THE JESTER HAS
STOLEN SOME FRUIT FROM KING COLD'S
KITCHEN! FIND WHAT HE STOLE THAT MAKES
TIZIE THE COOK SO ANGRY!
SUBSTITUTE A LETTER FOR THE NUMBER
YOU GET IN EACH BOX EXAMPLE 1=A,
2=B, 3=C

20 9 8 19 5 8

19 7 8 +7 x || ||

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

5 12 3 9 4 20

+2 +6 -2 +7 +1 +1

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

ANSWER:

1. APPLES
2. GRAPES

**KING COLD AND
QUEEN SNEEZE**
WANT TO SEE IF YOU CAN
FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH
THE MAZE TO THE
THREE BAGS OF SUGAR
THEY OWN

START

SUGAR

SUGAR

SUGAR

THE

BLACK HOOD

A HORRIBLE SECRET LURKED BEHIND THE TWO STIFF BROWN PIECES OF PARCHMENT THAT BARBARA SUTTON FOUND IN A SECOND HAND SHOP!

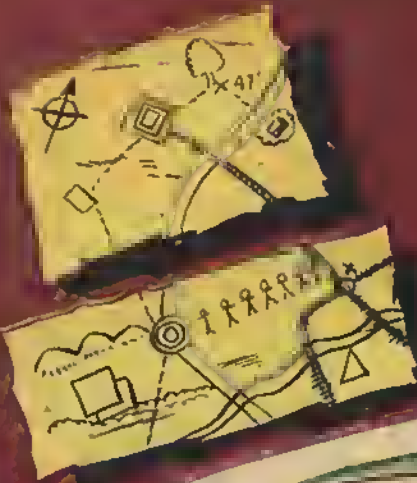
BARBARA FAINTED WHEN SHE LEARNED WHAT THE PARCHMENT REALLY WAS!... BUT THE BLACK HOOD USED IT AS A CLUE TO SOLVE A SERIES OF THE MOST FANTASTIC MURDERS EVER COMMITTED!

MIND STOP-
PING IN THIS SECOND
HAND SHOP A MINUTE,
KID? I MAY BE ABLE TO
FIND SOMETHING TO WRITE
ABOUT FOR THE PAPER!

LOOK, KIP! TWO
PIECES OF PARCH-
MENT WITH SEC-
TIONS OF A MAP
ON THEM!

WHAT ARE YOU GO-
ING TO DO? DREAM
UP A BURIED
TREASURE STORY?





JUST THE SAME
I'M GLAD I BOUGHT
IT! MAYBE IT IS
A MAP FOR SOME
THING VALUABLE!
I'M GOING TO
WRITE IT UP
IN TOMORROW'S
EDITION!

THERE YOU GO
WITH THAT IMAGINATION OF
YOURS! IT'S
PROBABLY
THE WORK OF A
KID WHO READ
TREASURE ISLAND
AND MADE IT
FOR FUN!



NEXT DAY IN THE WARD
OF A CITY HOSPITAL
A PATIENT IS READING
BAB'S ARTICLE--

WHERE AM I?
WHAT AM I
DOING HERE?
HOW DID THIS
GET IN THE
NEWSPAPER?

HUSH!
YOU'RE DIS-
TURBING THE
OTHER PATIENTS!
I'LL CALL THE
DOCTOR!

OR, SHELTON!
THAT AMNESIA
PATIENT IN WARD
& SEEMS TO HAVE
RECOVERED HIS
MEMORY!

I'LL BE
IN
RIGHT
AWAY!




DOCTOR, I REMEMBER
FALLING IN FRONT OF
A CAR--AND NOW I
FIND MYSELF IN THIS
HOSPITAL! HOW LONG
HAVE I BEEN HERE?

CALM YOUR
SELF OR
YOU'LL
HAVE A
RELAPSE!

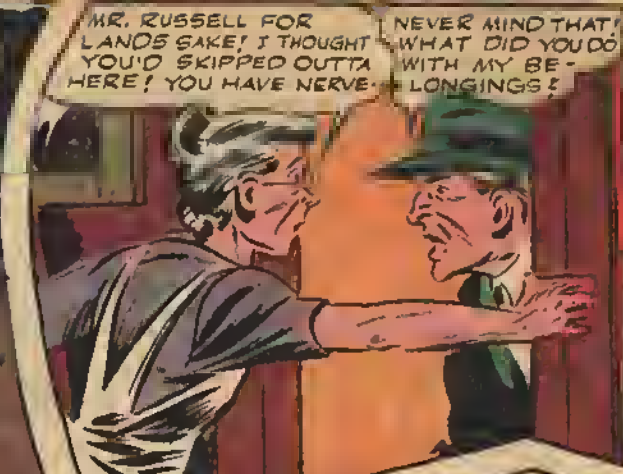
YOU WERE BROUGHT IN
AS A HIT AND RUN VICTIM
ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO--
YOU REMEMBERED NOTHING
OF YOUR PAST--AND YOU'VE
NO PAPERS OF IDENTIFI-
CATION!

TWO MONTHS
AGO? I'VE GOT
TO GET OUT! I
REMEMBER EVERY
THING NOW!






THOSE MAPS MENTIONED IN THAT NEWS STORY! THEY CAN'T BE MINE! AND YET THEY WERE IDENTICAL! I'LL GO TO MY ROOMING HOUSE AND SEE!




MR. RUSSELL FOR LANDS SAKE! I THOUGHT YOU'D SKIPPED OUTTA HERE! YOU HAVE NERVE!

NEVER MIND THAT! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH MY BE-LONGINGS?




YOU OWE ME TWO WEEKS RENT SO I SOLD 'EM TO THE SECOND HAND SHOP ON GREENWICH AVENUE!

YOU SOLD THEM! OH, YOU IDIOT! YOU IM-BECILE!



I'VE GOT TO GET THOSE MAPS! MY MAPS!

HELLO! CAN I HELP YOU?

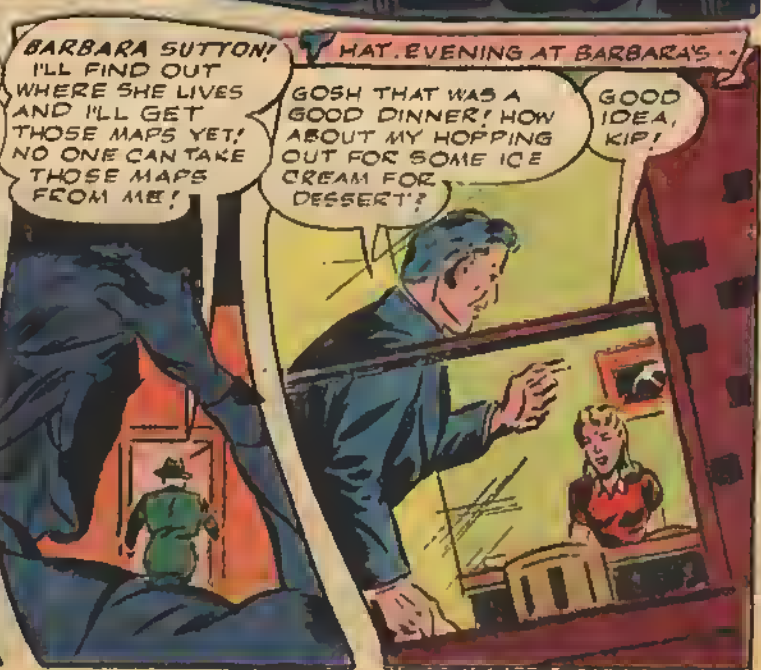


THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE PAPER ABOUT SOME MAPS YOU HAD HERE! I WANT TO BUY THEM!

SORRY, MISTER! BUT THEY'RE ALREADY SOLD TO THE GIRL THAT WROTE ABOUT 'EM!

BARBARA SUTTON! I'LL FIND OUT WHERE SHE LIVES AND I'LL GET THOSE MAPS YET! NO ONE CAN TAKE THOSE MAPS FROM ME!

HAT EVENING AT BARBARA'S...



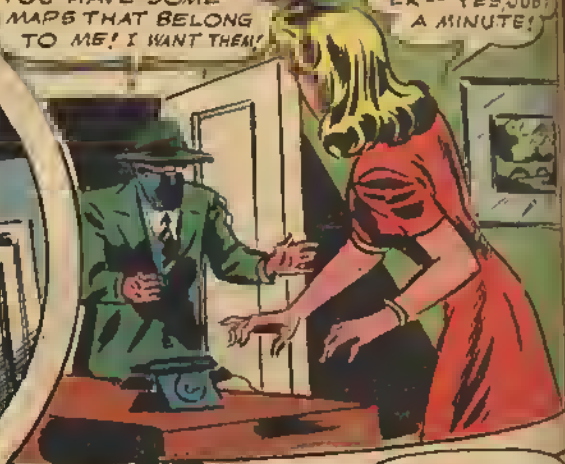
GOSH THAT WAS A GOOD DINNER! HOW ABOUT MY HOPPING OUT FOR SOME ICE CREAM FOR DESSERT?

GOOD IDEA, KIP!

THAT YOU, KIP? YOU CERTAINLY GOT BACK QUICKLY!

YOU'RE BARBARA BUTTON! YOU HAVE SOME MAPS THAT BELONG TO ME! I WANT THEM!

MAPS?--OH-- ER-- YES, JUST A MINUTE!



SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD FOOL ME AND PHONE FOR HELP! I'LL SHOW YOU!

GUESS YOU NEED A LESSON IN ETIQUETTE! MEN DON'T PUNCH GALS AROUND HERE!

DON'T INTERFERE OR YOU'LL BE SORRY!



WE'LL SOON SEE WHO'S SORRY!

TOUGH GUY, HUH? WELL THIS BLACK JACK WILL FIX YOU!

I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE WITHOUT THE MAP SECTIONS! IT WON'T MATTER! IF I CAN GET THE OTHER SECTIONS, I CAN USE THE NEWS PAPER REPRODUCTIONS TO COMPLETE IT!



KIP ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? HE WAS AFTER THOSE MAPS! WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE HE WANTED THEM?

OHKK, MY HEAD! WAIT A SECOND 'TIL IT CLEARS AND THEN LET ME SEE THOSE PIECES OF PAROHMENT AGAIN!

Y'KNOW BABS THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THESE! I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO DOWN TO THE POLICE LAB AND HAVE THE TECHNICIAN EXAMINE IT!

LET'S GO! MAYBE WE'VE STUMBLED INTO A REAL FORTUNE!

GOOD LORD! THIS IS HUMAN SKIN THAT'S BEEN TANNED! THE MAP IS TATTOOED INTO THE SKIN!

OHKK! TO THINK I HANDLED IT! HUMAN SKIN! OOOOO!

HOW LONG AGO WAS THAT SKIN TANNED, CAN YOU SAY?

IT'S PRETTY FRESH! I'D SAY WITHIN THE YEAR! THE PIECES ARE FROM TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE! A BLOND AND A BRUNETTE! FROM THE SIZE OF THE PORES I'D SAY THEY WERE MEN!

HAVE THERE BEEN ANY MURDERS RECENTLY WHERE A PIECE OF SKIN WAS MISSING?

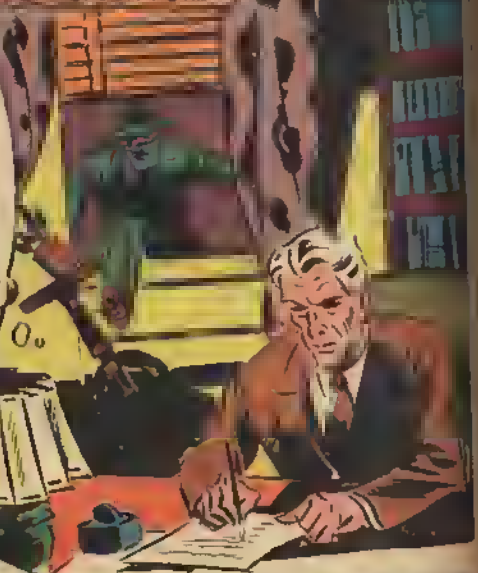
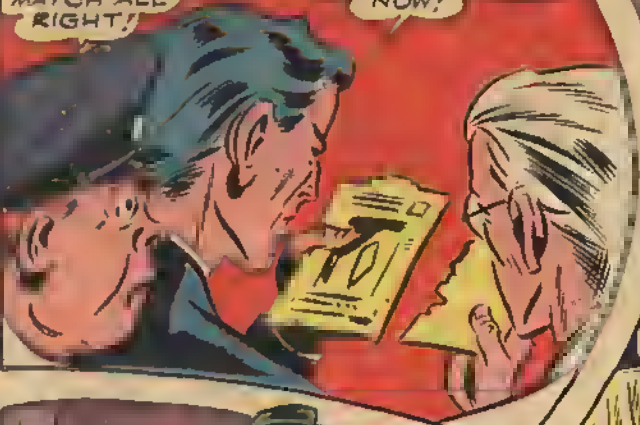
HEAVENS! YES! I SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THAT! THERE WAS A CASE ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO! WAIT AND I'LL GET THE DATA FROM MY FILES! THERE'LL BE PICTURES OF THE BODY AND COMPLETE INFORMATION!

HERE IT IS! WILLIAM SCHROOER FOUNO MUROERO IN MACOOUGAL ALLEY! A PIECE OF FLESH CHOPPED FROM HIS UPPER LEG! HERE'S A PICTURE OF THE CORPSE!

HMM-- EXCEPT FOR
SHREINAGE THE
PIECES OF FLESH
MATCH ALL
RIGHT!

WELL, THANKS
A LOT DOC! I'LL
BE RUNNING ALONG
NOW!

MEANWHILE AT THE
SCHROEDER HOME



WHO ARE
YOU? WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

HELP!
HELP!
FRANK CALL
THE POLICE!

SHUT UP
YOU FOOL!

OUTSIDE THE
SCHROEDER HOME...

I HEARD A CRY FOR
HELP, BABS! YOU GET
A COP! THE BLACK
HOOD'S GOING TO
DO SOME IN-
VESTIGATING!



YOU---
YOU'VE
KILLED
MY
BROTHER!

YES! AND I'LL KILL YOU
TOO-- UNLESS YOU DO
AS I SAY! GET A KNIFE
AND CUT THE FLESH
OFF HIS LEG JUST
ABOVE THE
KNEE!

THE
BLACK
HOOD!

HE'S ESCAPING.
HOOD --- THE
DIRTY KILLER!

LATER...

I ADMIT, THAT WHEN MY BROTHER
WILLIAM WAS MURDERED SEVERAL
MONTHS AGO, I DIDN'T TELL THE POLICE THE
FULL STORY! I WAS AFRAID TO BE
LAUGHED AT! BUT SINCE THAT
FIEND MURDERED GEORGE, I'LL
TELL YOU EVERYTHING! IT ALL
STARTED A LONG TIME AGO
WHEN I AND MY THREE BROTHERS

THREE
BROTHERS!
THE POLICE
RECORDS
SAY YOU

NO, MY THIRD
BROTHER
WAS KILLED A
LONG TIME AGO IN AN
AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT! HE
WAS CREATED AND HIS
ASHES SENT BACK IN
THAT URN BEHIND
ME!

WE SAINTED
AUNT! IMAGINE THAT -
A COFFIN!

AS CHILDREN
WE SPENT OUR VACA-
TIONS IN A TOWN CALLED
EDEN, IN TENNESSEE! ONE
DAY WE WERE EXPLORING
IN THE WOODS WHEN WE
HEARD A CRY FOR HELP!

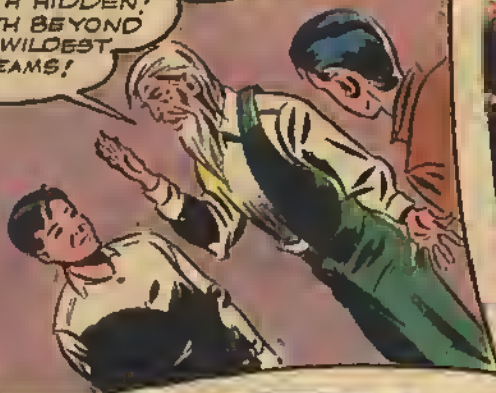
FOLLOWING THE
CRIES HE CAME UPON
HERNUT CAIN HANGING
FROM THE EDGE OF A CLIFF!

TAKE IT EASY, WE'LL GET
YOU UP!

YOU LADS
SAVED MY LIFE! COME
TO MY CAVE AND I'LL
REWARD YOU!

GOSH! THAT'S ALL
RIGHT! BUT WE'D
SURE LOVE TO
SEE YOUR CAVE!

I'M A HERMIT, AND I'VE NO
NEED FOR MONEY! I
KNOW WHERE THERE'S
WEALTH HIDDEN!
WEALTH BEYOND
YOUR WILDEST
DREAMS!



I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU BOYS WHERE TO
FIND IT -- BUT, NOT UNTIL YOU'RE
MEN.... YOU'LL ALL SHARE IT ALIKE!

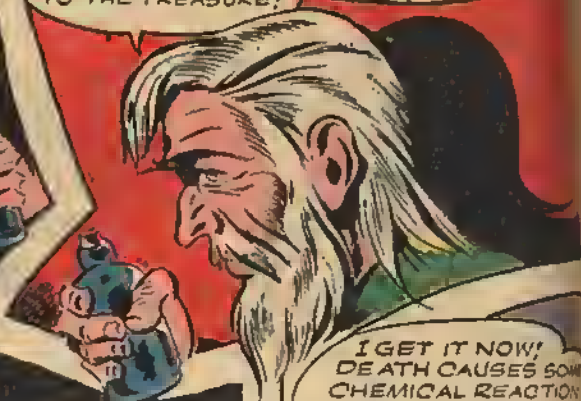
MY SCHEME'LL MAKE
SURE
OF
THAT!



I'M GOING TO TATTOO A
SECTION OF THE MAP ON
EACH OF YOUR LEGS!
DON'T WORRY! IT
WON'T HURT!



THE MAPS WON'T BEGIN TO SHOW ON
YOUR SKIN FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS
WITH THIS CHEMICAL OF MINE! BUT
WHEN THEY DO, THEY'LL LEAD YOU
TO THE TREASURE!



AS THE YEARS WENT BY AND
THE TATTOO MARKS NEVER
SHOWED, WE WERE ALL CON-
VINCED THAT HE WAS JUST
A CRAZY OLD HERMIT TEL-
LING US A FAIRY TALE!

Y'MEAN
YOU HAVEN'T
ANY TATTOO
MARKS ON
YOU?

NO MORE
THAN MY
DEAD
BROTHER
OVER
THERE
HAS ON
HIS LEG!

GOOD
LORO! LOOK
TATTOO
MARKS!
APPEARING
ON YOUR
BROTHER'S
LEG!

I GET IT NOW!
DEATH CAUSES SOME
CHEMICAL REACTION
THAT BRINGS OUT
THOSE TATTOO MARKS--
AND SOMEBODY
FOUND OUT ABOUT IT!
THAT'S WHY HE'S BEEN
KILLING YOU ALLOP!

GREAT HEAVENS!
THEN HARRY'S
DEATH MUST
HAVE BEEN
MURDER
NOT
ACCIDENT!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING
TO DO? THAT MADMAN
DOCTOR, WILL BE
AFTER ME NEXT!

DON'T WORRY, I HAVE
A PLAN! HOLD THE
FUNERAL AT ONCE! AND
YOU, MCGINTY, SEE THAT
FRANK SCHROEDER IS
WELL PROTECTED
BY YOUR
MEN

THE NEXT
NIGHT--

GEORGE
SCHROEDER
R.I.P.

YOU SLEPP
AWAY ONCE
MISTER...

...BUT YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
DO IT
AGAIN!

AND NOW,
LET'S HAVE
A LOOK
AT YOUR
FACE!

KEEP
AWAY,
HOOD,
OR
I'LL...

--OR YOU'LL
TAKE IT ON
THE CHIN!

THAT'S
WHAT YOU
THINK,
HOOD!

AT THE CARTER HOME---

HERE'S YOUR BUT, BUT WHAT
MURDERER-- ABOUT THE ASHES
HARRY AND THE PIECE OF
SCHROEDER! FLESH-- HIS LEG IS
ALRIGHT!

I KNOW-- THAT PIECE
FROM THE LEG WITH
THE MAP ON IT CON-
VINCED US HE WAS
DEAD-- BUT LOOK
HERE'S THE ANSWER!

AN ARTIFICIAL LEG! WHEN
HIS LEG WAS SEVERED
IN THE ACCIDENT HE
DISCOVERED THE
SECRET OF HOW
TO MAKE THE
MAP APPEAR!



YES!
YOU FOOL!
WHEN MY LEG WAS
SEVERED, THE TATTOO
MARKS APPEARED, I
KNEW THEN, THAT ONE
WAY TO BRING OUT THE
OTHER MAPS WAS TO
KILL YOU ALL

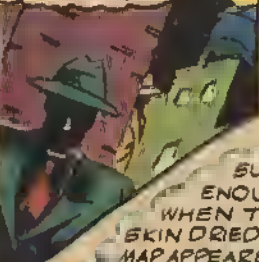
THE DOCTOR
WHO AMPUTATED
MY LEG WAS THE
FIRST TO NOTICE
THE MAP AND HE
GOT CURIOUS--
TOO CURIOUS!

"SO I
LURED HIM
TO A LONELY
COUNTRY ROAD
AFTER I HAD A
WOODEN LEG
MADE UP-- AND
KILLED HIM!

"IT WAS HIS ASHES
AND A FORGED
DEATH CERTIFICATE
I MAILED YOU--
PART OF MY PLAN
TO MAKE YOU THINK
I WAS DEAD!"



"THEN I CAME TO THE
CITY-- WAYLAI MY
BROTHER WILLIAM,
MURDERED HIM--
AND CUT AWAY
THE TATTOOED
FLESH!"

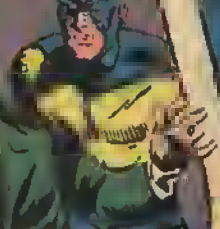
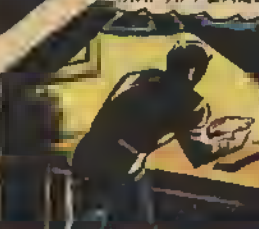
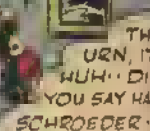
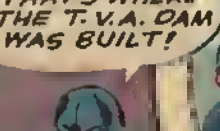
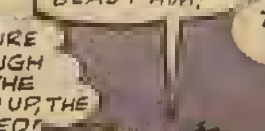
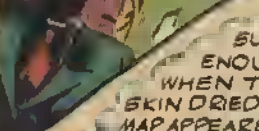


EVERYTHING WAS
PERFECT-- WHEN
I GOT HIT BY A
TRUCK, AND LOST
MY MEMORY!
OTHERWISE YOU
AND GEORGE
WOULD HAVE
DIED LONG
BEFORE THE
HOOD COULD
HAVE MEDDLED--
BLAST HIM!

YOU FOOL! ALL
OUR CRIMES
WERE FOR
NOTHING!
THE WHOLE
VALLEY WHERE
THE TREASURE'S
SUPPOSED TO
BE-- HOOD!
UNDER HUNDREDS
OF FEET OF
WATER--
THAT'S WHERE
THE T.V.A. DAM
WAS BUILT!

HEY, HOOD! I'VE
GOT EVERYTHING
UNDER CONTROL!
I HAVE A CLUE
THAT'LL SOLVE
THIS CASE AND
GET THE MUR-
DERER IN LESS
THAN TWENTY
FOUR HOURS!

BUT,
MAGNITY!
HOOD'S
ALREADY
CAUGHT THE
MURDERER
AND HE'S
CONFESSED
IT'S HARRY
SCHROEDER
THE BROTHER



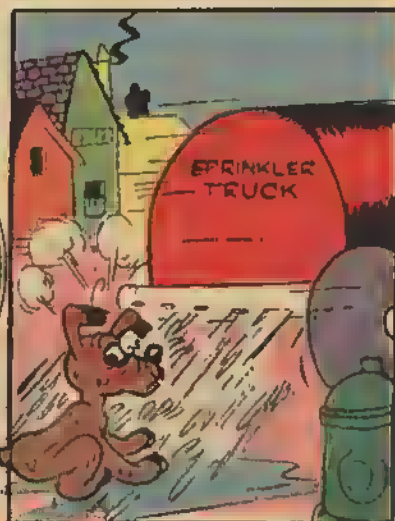
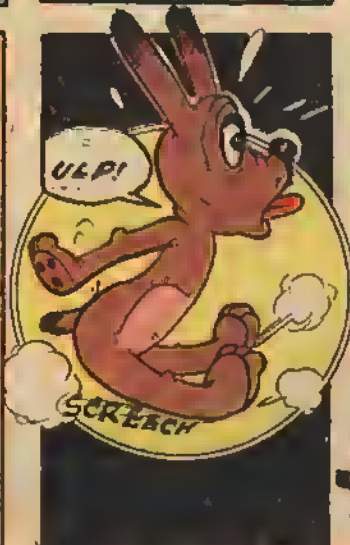
SURE
ENOUGH
WHEN THE
SKIN DRIED UP, THE
MAP APPEARED!

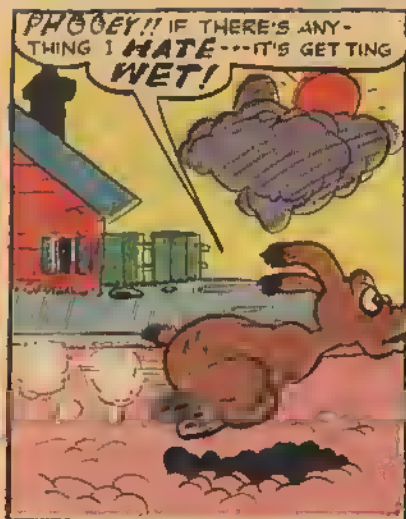
THIS
URN, IT'S
HUH-- DID
YOU SAY HARRY
SCHROEDER--
HEH, HEH, I KNEW
IT ALL THE
TIME!

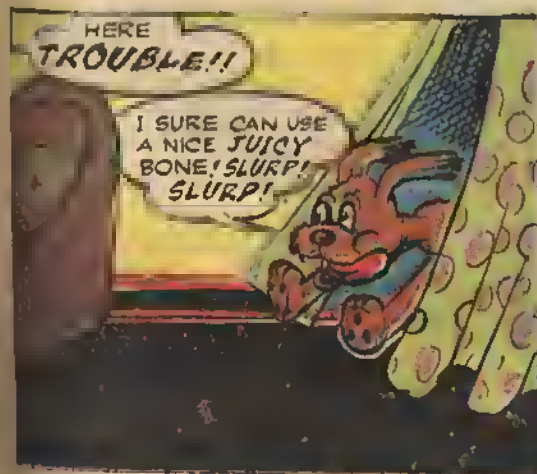
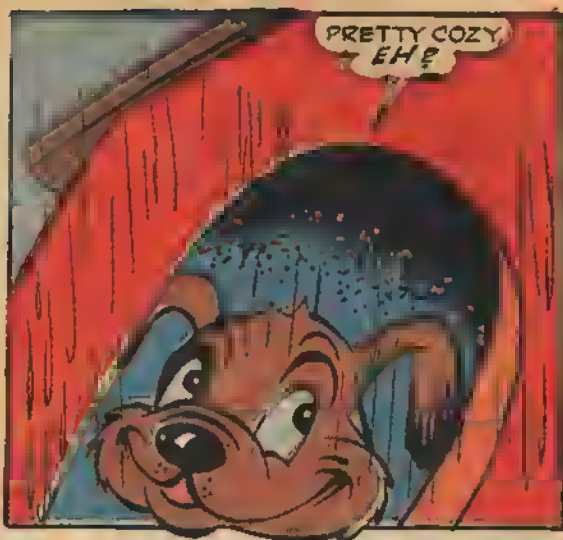
IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG!



by
Joe Edwards







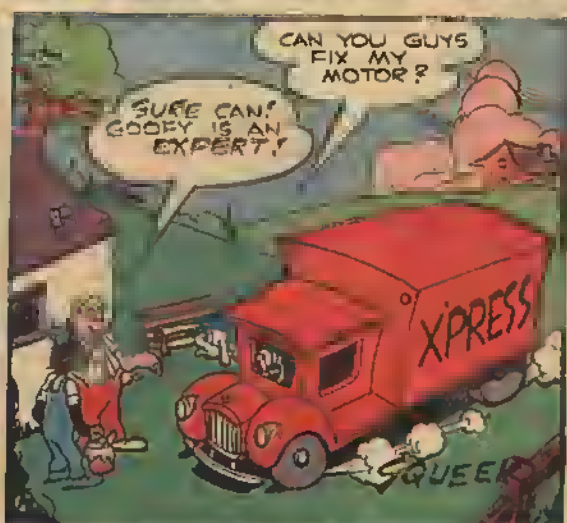
LOOK FOR THIS PICTURE ON YOUR NEWSSTAND!
IT WILL BE ON THE COVER OF THE LATEST SHIELD-WIZARD
SHIELD-WIZARD #10
ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND RIGHT NOW BRINGING WITH
IT "THE RETURN OF THE HUN" IN A TALE THAT WILL
LIVE FOREVER IN YOUR MIND !!!



PORKCHOPS

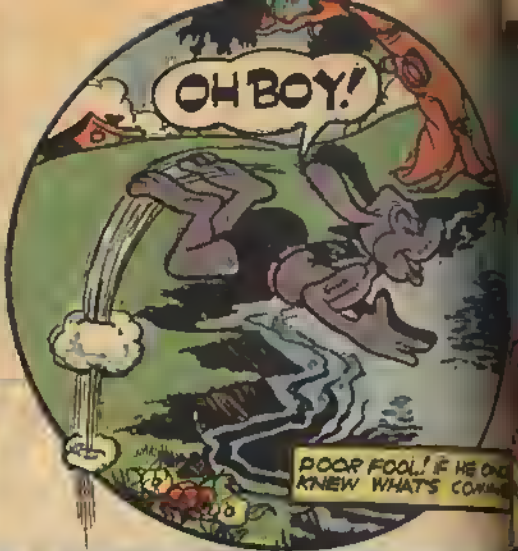


WHAT DO PORKCHOPS
AND GOOTCH SEE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?



YOU CAN WASH
UP IN OUR PRIVATE
POOL BACK THERE
WHILE WE FIX
YOUR BUS.

THANK! HOW
ABOUT A
SWIM
SUIT??

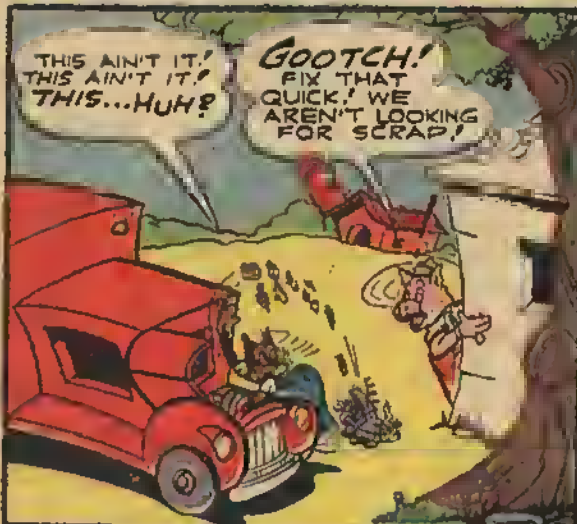


OH BOY!

POOR FOOL! IF HE ONLY
KNEW WHAT'S COMING

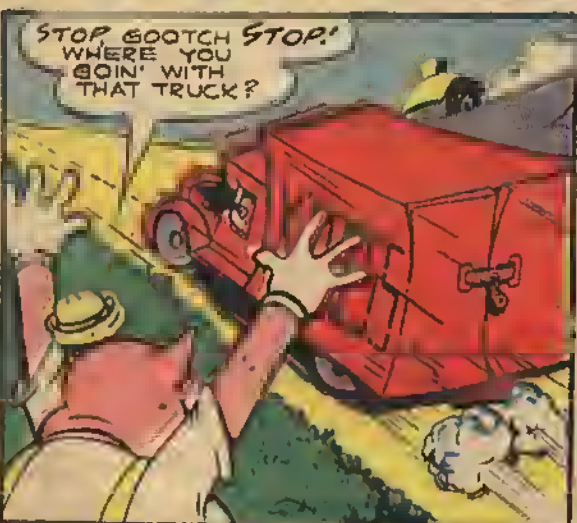
THIS AIN'T IT!
THIS AIN'T IT!
THIS...HUH?

GOOTCH!
FIX THAT
QUICK! WE
AREN'T LOOKING
FOR SCRAP!



WHAT THE!!

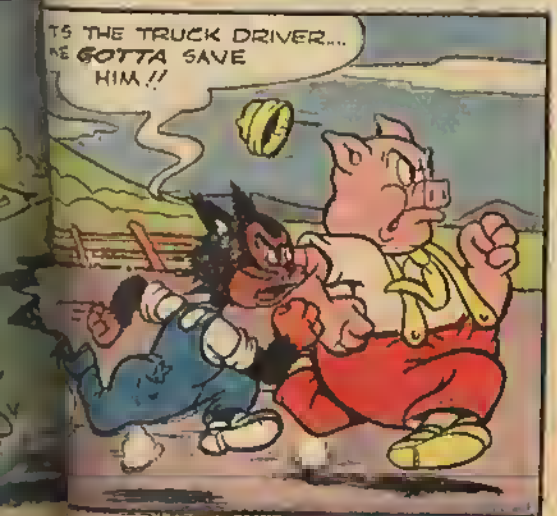
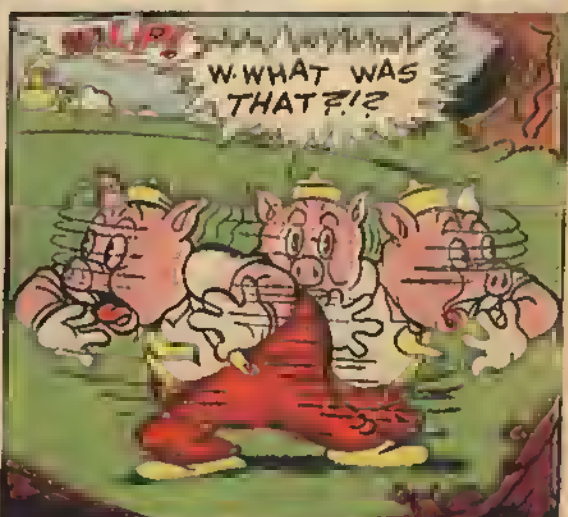
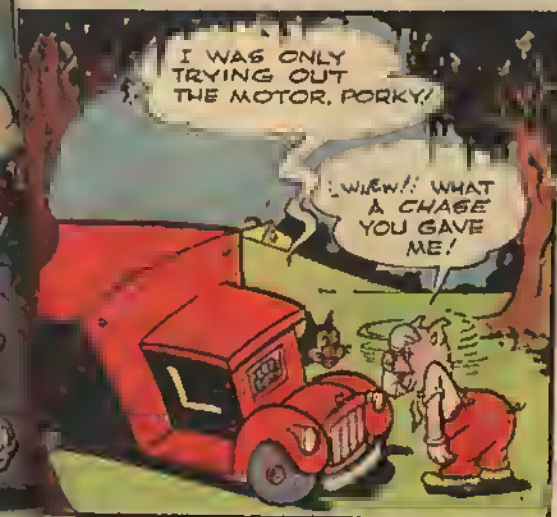
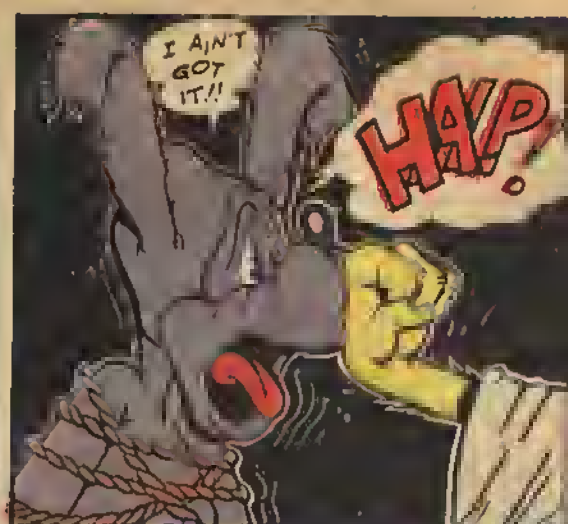
STOP GOOTCH STOP!
WHERE YOU
GOIN' WITH
THAT TRUCK?

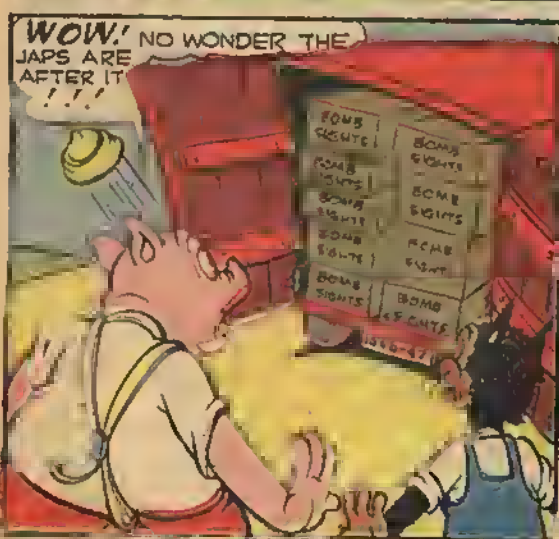
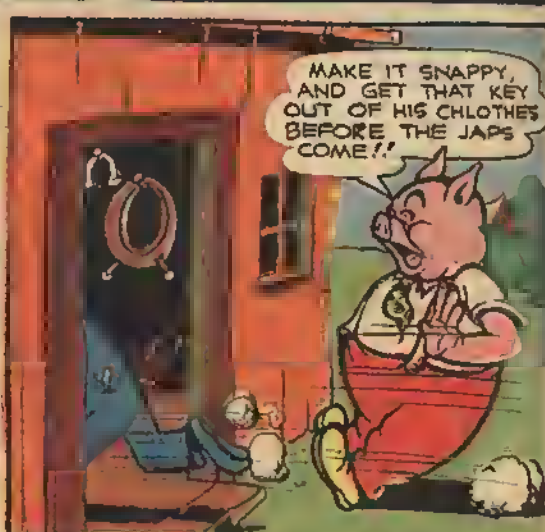
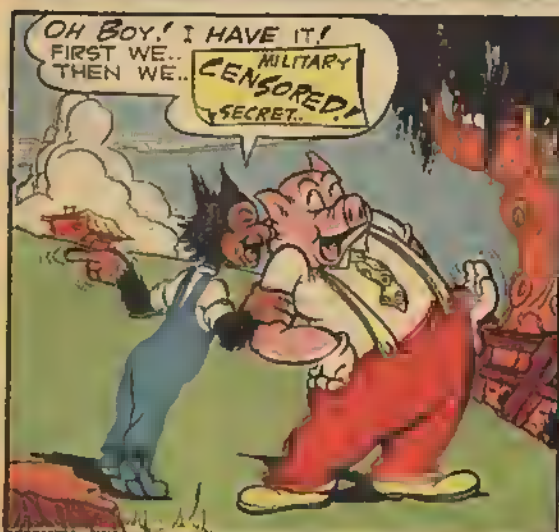


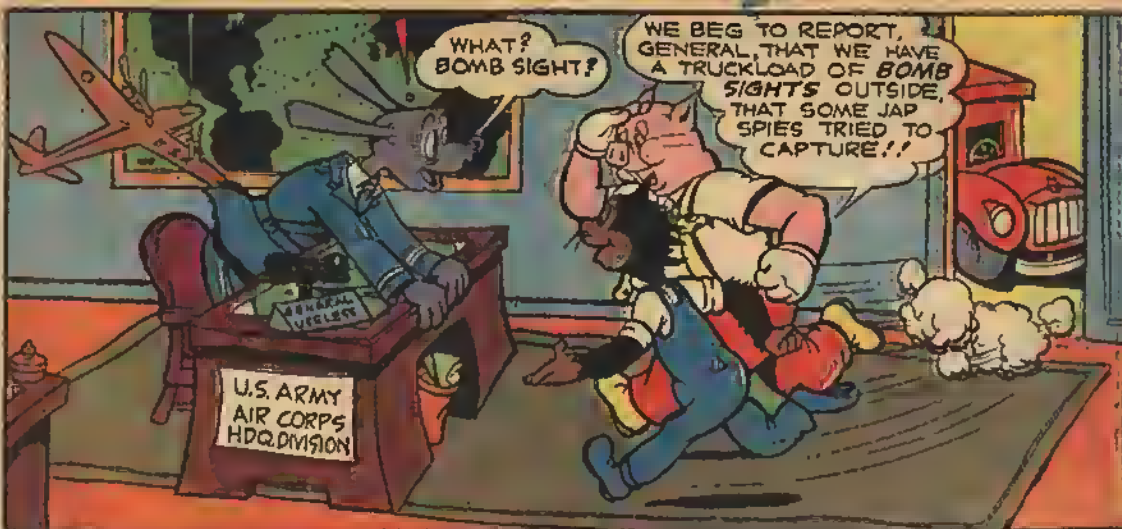
HON, GENTLEMAN!
WILL PLEASE
TO PUT UP HANDS
AND GIVE KEY
TO TRUCK!

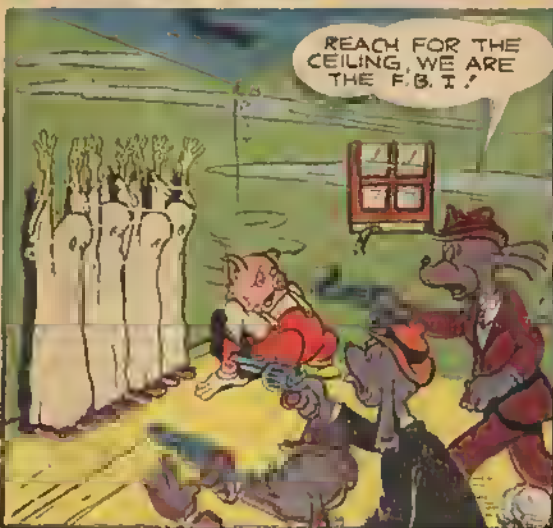


Meanwhile









MR. JUSTICE

IN THE RADIUM CORPSE

CAN THE DEAD DIE TWICE? CAN A MAN LIVE WITHOUT A SOUL? PROF. EDWARD STIMES WAS DETERMINED TO FIND THE ANSWER TO THIS RIDDLE... AND IN THE PROCESS OF HIS UNHOLY RE-

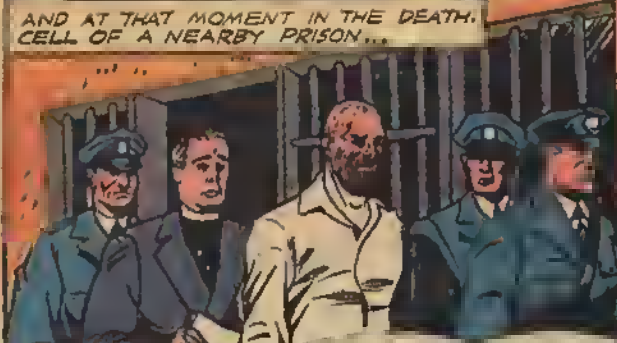
SEARCH PRESENTED MR. JUSTICE WITH THE MOST GROTESQUE AND MOST MENACING FOE OF HIS CAREER... THE RADIUM CORPSE!

ONE FATEFUL NIGHT IN THE LABORATORY OF PROF. EDWARD STIMES...

PERFECT!
ONE MORE TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER MY EXPERIMENT IS A SUCCESS!!



AND AT THAT MOMENT IN THE DEATH.
CELL OF A NEARBY PRISON...

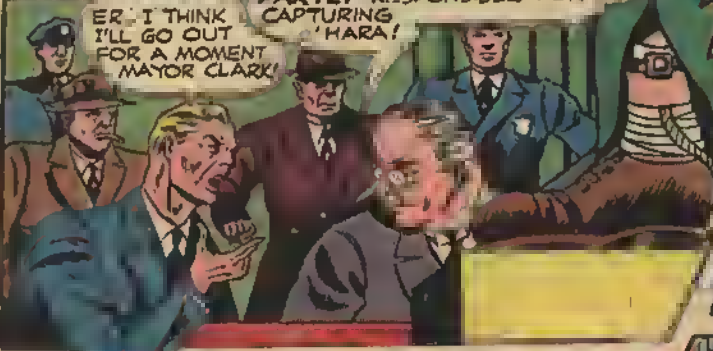


AND AMONGST THE
SPECTATORS.

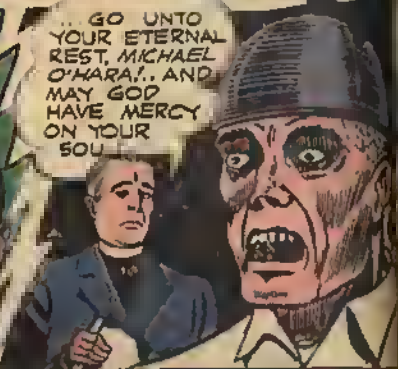
DON'T BE SO SQUEAMISH, MR.
JUSTICE, AFTER ALL YOU WERE
PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR

CAPTURING
'HARA!

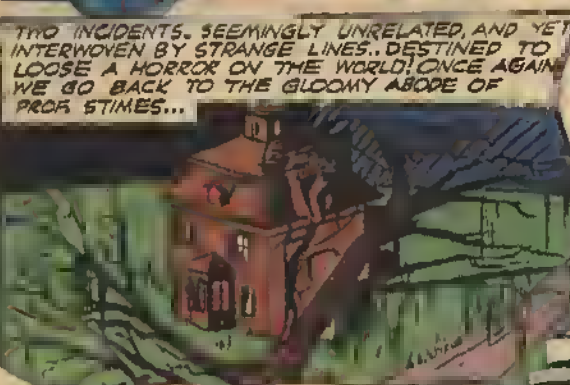
ER. I THINK
I'LL GO OUT
FOR A MOMENT
MAYOR CLARK!



GO UNTO
YOUR ETERNAL
REST, MICHAEL
O'HARA!.. AND
MAY GOD
HAVE MERCY
ON YOUR
SOUL



TWO INCIDENTS, SEEMINGLY UNRELATED, AND YET
INTERWOVEN BY STRANGE LINES.. DESTINED TO
LOOSE A HORROR ON THE WORLD! ONCE AGAIN
WE GO BACK TO THE GLOOMY ABODE OF
PROF STIMES...



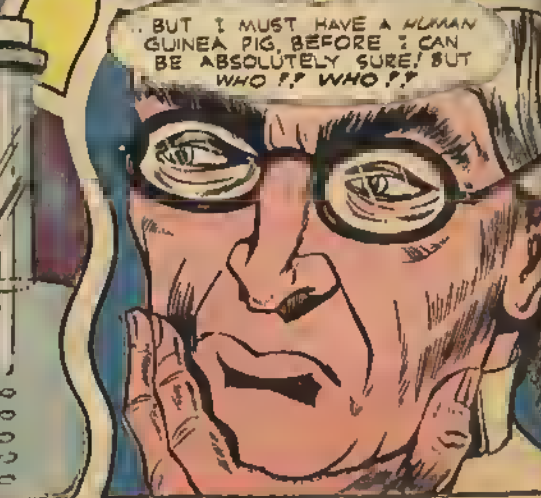
I'VE DONE IT! I'VE
DONE IT! THE WORK
OF A LIFETIME, AND
SUCCESS AT
LAST!



NOW FOR
THE FINAL
REACTION!



BUT I MUST HAVE A HUMAN
GUINEA PIG, BEFORE I CAN
BE ABSOLUTELY SURE! BUT
WHO?? WHO??



FLASH!!
IN JUST TEN
MINUTES, NOW
FOLKS THE
VICIOUS KILLER
MIKE O'HARA
IS DUE TO BE
EXECUTED.
BLA. BLA...

I'VE GOT MY GUINEA
PIG! MIKE O'HARA IS DOOMED
TO DIE, ANYWAY, SO HE HAS
NOTHING TO LOSE, BUT I'VE
GOT TO WORK FAST! I'VE
LESS THAN TEN MINUTES
LEFT! I'LL CALL MY
FRIEND, JUDGE SACHS,
AT ONCE!!

HELLO?... JUDGE
SACHS, PLEASE!
THIS IS PROF.
STIMES! HURRY,
PLEASE!

OH, HELLO,
PROF. I'M SORRY
FATHER ISN'T
IN JUST NOW!

LINDA! YOU
MUST HELP ME
AT ONCE! YOU
KNOW THAT BLUE
PRINT OF THE
INSIDE OF THE
STATE PRISON
HAB! PLEASE
BRING IT TO
ME AT ONCE!
IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE OR
DEATH!

HERE, PROF.
STIMES, IS THE
BLUEPRINT! I
HURRIED DOWN
AS FAST AS I
COULD!!

AND NONE TOO
SOON! THANK YOU
VERY MUCH, LINDA!
I'LL RETURN IT IN
THE MORNING!!

YOU SEEM STRANGELY
AGITATED. IS ANYTHING
WRONG, PROF.??

ER... NO, MY
DEAR, HA, HA...
AND NOW IF
YOU'LL EXCUSE
ME!!

WELL! I LIKE THAT!
GLAMMING THE DOOR
IN MY FACE! HMM...
NASTY, RUDE CREATURE!!
AND AFTER I
ALMOST BROKE
MY NECK TO
GET HIM HIS OLD
BLUEPRINT!!

NOW... LET'S SEE...
MUST LOCATE THE
EXACT WHEREABOUTS
OF THE EXECUTION
CHAMBER... AH...
HERE IT IS!!

NOW, I'LL GET MY
CONTROLS, SO THAT
MY RAY WILL STRIKE
EXACTLY THERE!
ONLY ONE MINUTE
TO GO!!

BANG

MAIL

DEATH HOUSE

...ONE MINUTE TO
GO BEFORE I
GIVE HER THE
JUICE!

BONG!

BUT QUEERLY ENOUGH INSTEAD OF
CRACKLING ELECTRICITY, THE
CHAMBER IS SUFFUSED WITH A
WEIRD UNEARTHLY BLUE LIGHT...

GOOD LORD!
THAT BLUE LIGHT
IS ALMOST
BLINDING!!

PERHAPS IT'S
A SHORT CIRCUIT!
I HOPE THE
EXECUTION ISN'T
DELAYED BE-
CAUSE OF
THIS!!

HMM... NO HEART BEAT!
NO PULSE! SEEMS DEAD
ENOUGH, ALL RIGHT!!

AND YET, THERE IS
AN ODD VIBRATION
IN THE CORPSE!!
NEVER CAME ACROSS
THAT KIND OF
SYMPTOM
BEFORE!

PERHAPS YOU
PUT TOO MANY
VOLTS THRU
HIS BODY!

NOPE, DOC.
I REGULATED
THE JUICE
SAME AS EVER!
OH, WELL, AS
LONG AS
HE'S DEAD!

BUT THE SPIRIT WORLD SEEMS
TO BEAT VIOLENTLY AGAINST
THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MR.
JUSTICE... A WARNING THAT
SOMETHING IS AMISS...

LATER.. THAT SAME EVENING...

MAYBE I'M BEING FOOLISH..
BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK
ON MIKE O'HARA AND
SEE IF HE'S REALLY
DEAD!...

MOROSE

...MM.. IT'S AGAINST
REGULATIONS TO ALLOW
VISITORS, THIS TIME OF
NIGHT.. BUT BEIN' IT'S
YOU MR. JUSTICE!!

THANKS, PADDY!
I'LL ONLY BE
A MINUTE!

AT THAT MOMENT..

QUICK, MAN! THE
BODY OF MIKE
O'HARA, WHERE
IS IT?!

SEE
HERE,
YOU CAN'T
COME BUSTIN'
IN THIS
WAY, AN'...

WAIT A MINUTE, PADDY!
I RECOGNIZE THIS MAN!
HE'S PROF STIMES! THE
FAMOUS SCIENTIST!
WHY NOT LET BOTH
OF US LOOK AT THE
SAME TIME!!

WELL, OKAY!
THE STIFF'S
RIGHT BEHIND
YOU!!

DEAD!! BLAST IT!
THE SKIN'S SHREDDED
RIGHT OFF HIM...
I MUST HAVE FAILED
AFTER ALL!!

EVERYTHING!
I KILLED
HIM!!

WHAT?
BUT I SAW
HIM ELECTRO-
CUTED WITH
MY OWN
EYES!

I KILLED HIM I
TELL YOU! KILLED
HIM WITH A RADIUM
RAY, I PROJECTED
INTO THE DEATH
CHAMBER, JUST
BEFORE THE
ELECTRIC CURRENT
WAS TURNED
ON!!

I'VE BEEN EXPERMENT-
ING WITH RADIUM AS A
MEANS OF MAKING
PEOPLE IMMUNE
TO DEATH!

PARDON MY
CURIOSITY,
PROFESSOR? DO
YOU MIND MY
ASKING JUST
WHAT YOU
HAVE TO DO
WITH THIS
CORPSE?

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN
THE GREATEST
SCIENTIFIC DISCOV-
ERY OF MANKIND!

BUT I'VE
FAILED!
FAILED!

MOTHER OF
HEAVEN!
THE...
THE
CORPSE!

HELP!

HEL...

ARRG

SWIFTLY THE CREATURE
TURNS UPON THE PETRIFIED
PROF. STIMES, IT'S UNWITTING
CREATOR...

BUT BEFORE IT CAN ATTACK, A
THICK IMPENETRABLE MIST FORMS
ABOUT THE PROF., AND THE
BEAST-CORPSE SHIES AWAY IN
DREAD...

YOU'RE SAFE
NOW, PROF.
STIMES!

THEN TURNS AND FLEES AS
THOUGH IN DREAD, IT'S HORRIBLE
FIGURE ILLUMINATED BY A
WEIRD BLUE GLOW...

WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE DID YOU COME
FROM? YOU LOOK LIKE
A GHOST, YOURSELF!

PERHAPS I
AM, PROF. I
POOR
FELLOW.
HE'S DEAD!
BURNED TO
A CRISP!!

YOU HAVE TAMPERED WITH THINGS.
NO HUMAN SHOULD...AND CREATED
A SOULLESS MONSTER...KILLER!!
RETURN TO YOUR
LABORATORY,
QUICKLY, AND
DESTROY YOUR
FIENDISH
INVENTION!

Y..YES, YOU'RE
RIGHT! I'LL
DO IT AT
ONCE!

MEANWHILE THERE'S ONLY
ONE THING FOR ME TO
DO! GO TO THE KEEPER
OF LOST SOULS!


FRENZIEDLY
PROF. STIMES
SPEEDS
BACK TO
HIS LAB-
ORATORY...
INTENT ON
DESTROYING
THE
MONSTER
OF HIS
MAKING..

WHAT A FOOL I
WAS TO TAMPER WITH
THE UNKNOWN...BUT
PERHAPS IT'S NOT
TOO LATE YET!


THERE.. THAT
SHOULD PUT
AN END TO THAT
MONSTROBITY!

BUT JUST
THEN...

YOU.. YOU CAN'T
BE ALIVE YET! I..
I JUST DESTROYED
YOU!!..




AT LAST MR. JUSTICE
REACHES HIS DESTINATION...
THE PLANET OF LIMBO...
THE DOMAIN OF THE
KEEPER OF LOST SOULS.




DISCIPLE OF
SATAN! I CAME
HERE FOR
THE SOUL OF
MICHAEL
O'HARA!

YOU... MY MASTER'S
GREATEST
FOE... DARE
TO ENTER
MY DOMAIN!

IMPS! IMPS OF
HADES!
SEIZE
MR.
JUSTICE!




HMM...
LOOKS LIKE
I'LL HAVE
TO DO THIS
THE HARD
WAY!!




ALL RIGHT!
COME AND
GET IT!

I KNOW THE SOUL
OF MIKE O'HARA
HAS LEFT HIS
BODY!

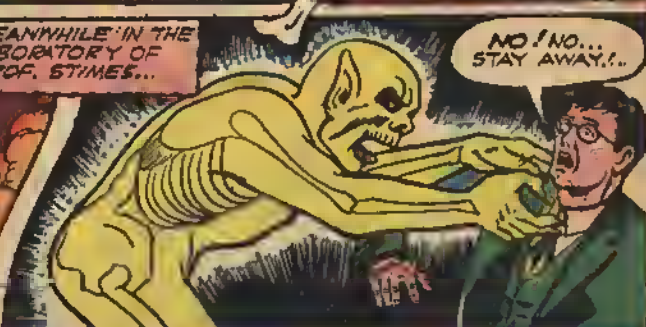


AND I MEAN
TO GET IT... ONE
WAY, OR THE
OTHER!!



I'VE GOT THE
KEEPER'S SCEPTER!..
AND I KNOW THE
MAGIC INCANTATION!
NOW TO GET
BACK TO
EARTH!

MEANWHILE IN THE
LABORATORY OF
PROF. STIMES...



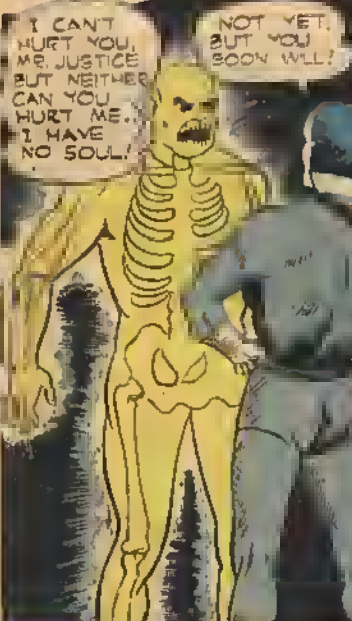
NO! NO...
STAY AWAY!..



EEEEYOWWWW...



TOO LATE! THAT RADIUM MONSTER GOT PROF. STIMES!



I CAN'T HURT YOU, MR. JUSTICE BUT NEITHER CAN YOU HURT ME. I HAVE NO SOUL!

NOT YET, BUT YOU SOON WILL!



SPIRIT OF MICHAEL O'HARA! BY THE POWER OF THIS MAGIC SCEPTER, I COMMAND YOU TO RETURN FROM LIMBO!

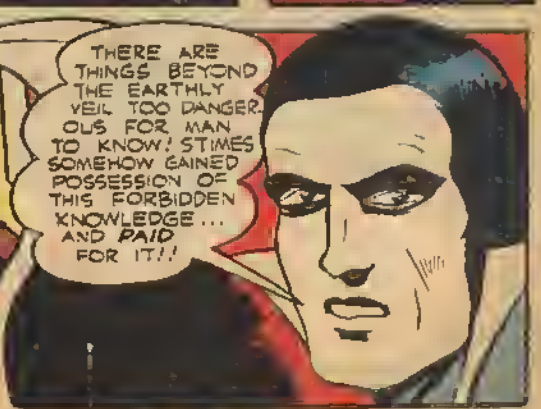
I OBEY, O KEEPER OF THE MAGIC SCEPTER! I SHALL RETURN TO MY EARTHLY HAVEN!



NO! THE RADIUM WILL DISINTEGRATE MY BODY IF I HAVE MY SOUL BACK!




YES, MIKE O'HARA, I KNEW THAT SECRET TOO!... TOO BAD I COULDN'T DO THIS BEFORE YOU GOT PROF. STIMES!!




THERE ARE THINGS BEYOND THE EARTHLY VEIL TOO DANGEROUS FOR MAN TO KNOW! STIMES SOMEHOW GAINED POSSESSION OF THIS FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE... AND PAID FOR IT!!

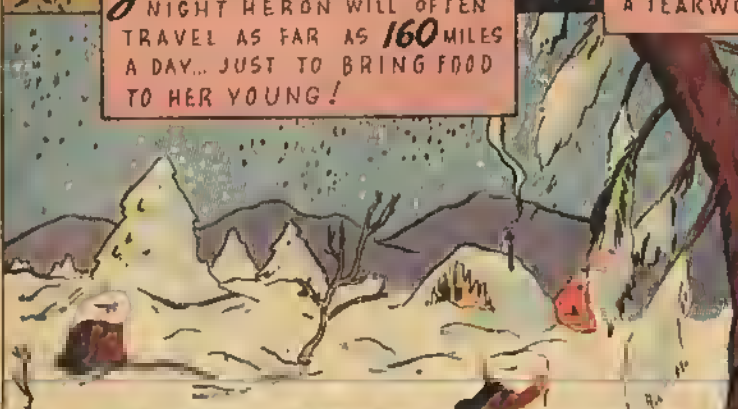
WORLD WONDERS




THE BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON WILL OFTEN TRAVEL AS FAR AS **160** MILES A DAY... JUST TO BRING FOOD TO HER YOUNG!



IT TAKES AS LONG AS **10** YEARS FROM THE TIME IT IS CUT TO GET A TEAKWOOD LOG TO A SAWMILL!



16 MILLION TONS OF SNOW AND RAIN FALL SOMEWHERE ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE DURING EVERY SECOND OF THE DAY AND NIGHT...



TODAY AMERICA'S GREAT AIRCRAFT FACTORIES ARE PRODUCING OVER **60,000** PLANES YEARLY..... BUT DURING WORLD WAR I THE TOTAL WAS ONLY **15** PLANES A YEAR...

MURDER TRAP

by Alf Corsican

SPRING was in the air, and Kip Burland was very restless. The city annoyed him, and today of all days he was more annoyed than ever. That letter from Jake Brody in his pocket didn't help matters either. What was it Jake had written? Quickly Kip reached into his trousers:

"My dear Kip,
Why don't you leave your stuffy job and come up here, and spend the weekend. The fishing's great, and until a week ago I used to go out every morning with Father for a mess of trout! Funny thing happened—a week ago, he disappeared, and no one knows where he went. I'm a bit disturbed, since he had a lot of money with him at the time.

Besides Father made the mistake of quarreling with Mike Grainger, his business partner, and you know what a short temper Mike has! Mike left town about the same time Father did, and seemingly deserted his lobster business.

Come on up, Kip—I'd be glad to have you here.

As ever sincerely yours,
Jake Brody."

That decided it. Kip hurried to his hotel, packed his bag, and within half an hour

was sitting in the club car of the Maine Special.

The next morning, as the pine trees along the Maine coast came into view, Kip smiled from his seat in the dining-car. This was it! The vacation he'd been longing for.

As he dug his spoon into his grapefruit Kip noticed the man opposite him. There was something vaguely familiar about this swarthy shifty-eyed man. Where had Kip seen him before? And why was this stranger's hand shaking so violently? Suddenly the man rose unsteadily to his feet, turned and staggered down the aisle between the tables towards the door, and disappeared.

In twenty minutes the train pulled to a halt, and sure enough there was Jake Brody waiting for him. But two local policemen were with him! Jake looked very upset.

"Kip! I was hoping you'd catch this train! Officers O'Connell and Burke have come down with me. Gentlemen, this is an old friend of mine, Kip Burland."

Kip acknowledged the introduction, and asked what was up.

"I went fishing this morning," Jake began, with a strange look in his eye,

"... out on the end of the pier, and an old lobster crate floated my way, Kip. I pulled it ashore, and opened it up. Inside was the body of Father ... it was horrible!"

Officer O'Connell cleared his throat. "When we examined Mr. Brody's body we found it pretty badly decomposed by water, and bloated almost beyond recognition!"

"What?" Kip suddenly exclaimed. "It was bloated?"

At that moment, Jake Brody cried out: "There he is!" Kip turned, and who should be descending from the train but his breakfast-table companion, a suitcase in his hand.

"There's Mike Grainger, officers ... arrest him!"

And suddenly, before anyone could see ... a dark clad figure had run up to Mr. Grainger, grabbed him by the sleeve, and pulled him into a nearby taxicab!

Jake Brody gasped: "The Hood, the Black Hood! That's who it was! After them boys!"

Inside the first taxicab, the Black Hood ordered the driver to step on it!

"Where are you taking me?" queried Grainger.

"Never mind," was the abrupt answer. "I have a little investigating of my own to do, before I turn you over

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to the authorities. Driver, the police station."

"I didn't know what you're talking about," answered Grainger, perspiring. . . . "I— I've been out of town. Been to the city to see my doctor . . . heart condition, you see!"

"Did you let anyone know when you were going and coming back?" asked the Black Hood.

"Why—er . . . everyone in town knew!" was the answer.

With a grinding shriek the taxicab pulled to a halt in front of the police station.

Moments later, the Black Hood was examining the body of Jake Brody's father. He turned away, and went into an adjoining room. As he was looking intently at the lobster crate that had held the victim, the door burst open and Jake Brody and Officers O'Connell and Burke entered.

"Listen Hood, you've got some nerve, kidnapping a murderer from 'right under our noses!" shouted Officer Burke angrily.

"A man's innocent till proved guilty," remarked the Black hood. "Besides, he's in the next room. I brought him here!"

"This is a clear case," prompted Officer O'Connell. "Obviously Mike Grainger killed Jake's father. For the money he had with him, and stuffed him into a lobster crate. One thing he didn't realize was that the crate might float

back to shore, bringing the evidence with it. Innocently enough, it was the son of the murdered man who uncovered the crime!"

Slowly the Black Hood turned to the gathered group. "There's only one fault to your reasoning, Officer O'Connell, and that is you've picked the wrong murderer!" Accusingly, the Black Hood pointed towards Jake Brody. "There is your killer!" he said.

With a muttered curse, Jake threw himself against the Hood, pummeling savagely. As the avenger of the just backed away, Jake picked up a blackjack from a nearby desk and hurled it. It missed the Black Hood by inches. Wasting no further time, he hurled his massive muscular body against the wiry fisherman. In a moment it was over and Jake Brody was being led into a cell.

Later Officers O'Connell and Burke, Mike Grainger and the Black Hood sat round a stove in Grainger's house, as lobsters boiled in a pot.

"He confessed just an hour ago," remarked Officer Burke . . . "that he killed his father in cold blood. Seems his father threatened to disinherit him, and had withdrawn all his available money from the bank to give it to Mike Grainger, his business partner!"

"But Hood, how did you see through that air-tight alibi of Jake's?"

"It was air-tight except for one thing Jake forgot," began the Black Hood, a grim smile playing about his lips. "His father's body was decomposed in water, and yet he said he found the crate *floating*! Since enough water entered the lobster crate to float the body, it couldn't possibly have been floating . . . it must have sunk!"

"Obviously, what happened was that Jake knew Mike Grainger would leave town at a certain date for an examination by his doctor. He stole one of Mike's lobster crates, killed his father, stuffed it into the crate and weighted it down off the pier. Then the day he knew Grainger was to return, he pulled up the crate and feigned finding it! It was unfortunate for Jake that he happened to ask a friend of mine, Kip Burland, up here . . . or I should never have been here. Also, Burland told me, he met Grainger aboard the train . . . and it was quite obvious to him that he did suffer from a heart condition!"

Mike Grainger crossed to the stove, and lifted the top from the pail of simmering lobsters. Officer Burke looked up and said: "By the way what ever became of Kip Burland? We sort of lost track of him at the station."

The Black Hood leaned back in his chair, and stared musingly at the ceiling. "I wonder . . ." he echoed, a taut smile hovering about his lips.

CLANCY and LOONEY by HUBBELL

FROM A
DRUG STORE
NEAR THE
ARMY CAMP,
SERGEANT
CLANCY (OF
THE METRO-
POLITAN
POLICE)
PHONES
SERGEANT
"LOONEY"
LUNAR,
(OF THE
U.S. ARMY).

"H IH, LOONEY OL SOCK,
I FINALLY GOT HERE?
WHERE'LL I MEET YOU?
AT THE USO CLUB, HUH?
IN ABOUT FIFTEEN
MINUTES?"



"YEAH, SAY, BE A PAL
AND PICK UP MY UNIFORM
FOR ME AT THE TAILOR'S
FOR ME WILL YA? I
HAD TA HAVE SOME
ALTERATIONS MADE?"



"WHAT? ANOTHER
PACKAGE? NOW
WAIT A MINUTE....
DON'T
WORRY, I'LL
PAY YOU
BACK, PAL!
SO LONG"



"HEY YOU! YOU CAN'T
DO THIS TO ME! I FEEL
LIKE A TRUCK HORSE
ALREADY! AWW NUTS!!"



"MUMBLE.. MUMBLE..
GIMME SERGEANT
LUNAR'S UNIFORM?"



"HERE YOU
ARE? THAT'LL
BE 25¢"

"IT'S A OOPS!
THERE THEY
GO AGAIN."



"YAAAAAA!
SCAB LABOR!"

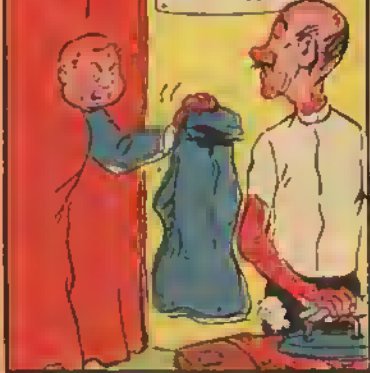


"CLANCY HUSTLES BACK TO
THE TAILOR SHOP?"

"FIX THESE PANTS
QUICK, WILL YA, POP?
I GOTTA MEET
A GUY!"

"SORRY, BUT I
HAVE TO FINISH
THIS JOB. YOU'LL
HAVE TO WAIT."

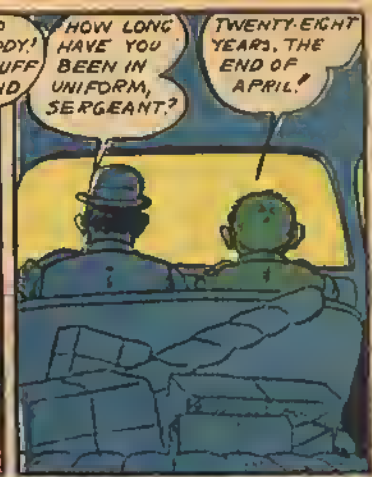
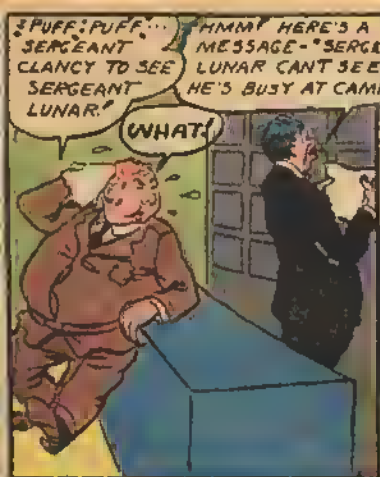
"REPAIRING
REASONABLE RATES"



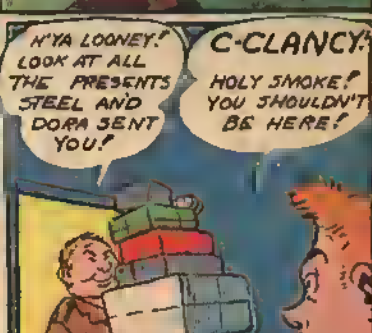
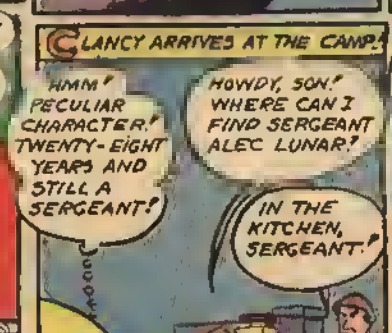
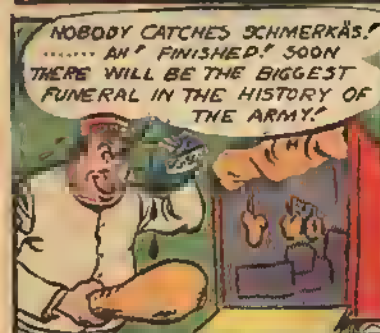
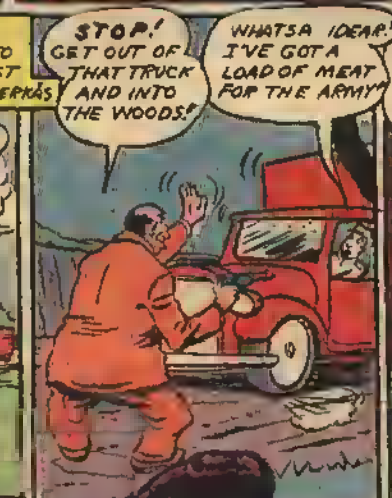
"I CAN'T WAIT
AROUND FOR THAT
SLOWPOKE LOONEY'S
OUTFIT JUST
FITS.....
ALMOST."

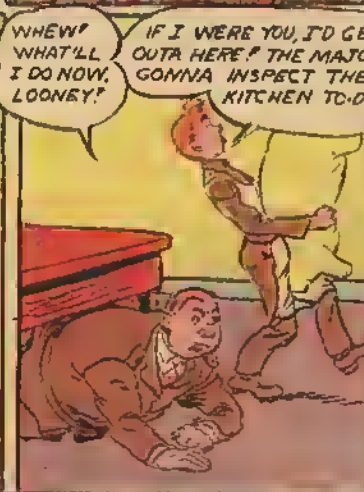
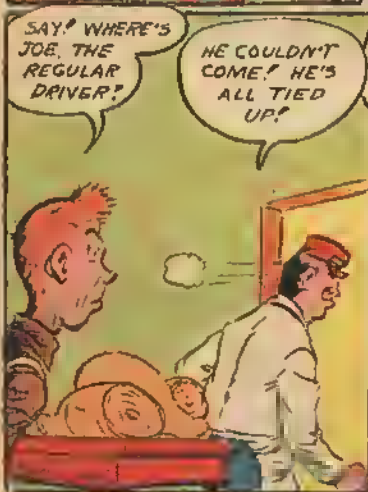
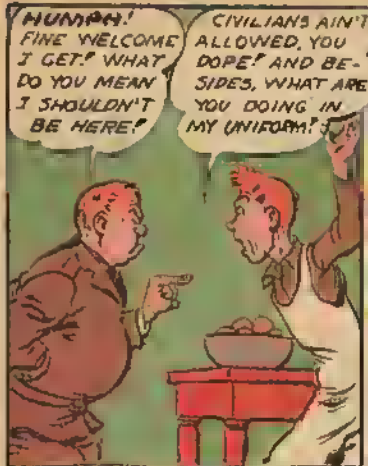
"I'LL JUST
MAKE IT,
AS IT IS."





MEANWHILE - BEHIND A BUSH ON ONE OF THE MAIN HIGHWAYS TO THE CAMP - WE FIND THE FOULEST SABOTEUR IN THE COUNTRY - SCHMERKAS!





G-GOSH! IT'S THE MAJOR!

SO, NOT A SOLDIER, EH? LOCK THE SPY UP MEN!

LEAMME GO, YOU GUYS! YOU CAN'T ARREST ME! I AIN'T A SOLDIER!

LOOK OUT!! HE'S GETTING AWAY! HE'S HEADING FOR THE WOODS! SHOOT TO KILL!

GULP!! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!

BOOOON! POOR CLANCY! I CAN'T LET HIM GET SHOT DOWN!

GIMME THAT GUN!! I'LL GET THE RAT!



LOOK AT SERGEANT LUNAR! SUCH COURAGE! I DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD IT IN HIM!

COME BACK! YOU CUR!

CLANCY CRASHES THROUGH THE FOREST, COMING OUT ON THE ROAD

THERE'S A TRUCK! MAYBE HE'LL GIVE ME A RIDE!

S-SAY, MISTER, ARE YOU G-GOIN' TOWARDS TOWN... ULP!

A SOLDIER, EH? WHATSA IDEA BUSTIN' OUTA THEM BUSHES LIKE THAT?



YOU G-GOT ME ALL WRONG, MISTER. I AIN'T A SOLDIER... IN FACT, TH- THE WHOLE ARMY IS AFTER ME FOR BEIN' A SPY!

IS THAT SO?

HMM, MAYBE I CAN USE THIS GUY!

OKAY, PAL! YOU STICK WITH ME AND I'LL SEE YOU THROUGH! GIMME A HAND WITH THIS JALLOPPYAN' YOU AN' ME'LL MAKE TRACKS!

SO YOU'RE DUCKIN' THE SOLDIER BOYS? DAT'S QUITE A COINCIDENCE! THEY WANT ME TOO! HAND ME DAT WRENCH!

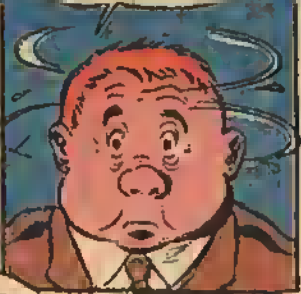
HERE IT IS... WHAT DO THEY WANT YOU FOR?



ME! I JUST DELIVERED A TRUCKLOAD OF POISONED MEAT TO THE ARMY CAMP BY TOMORROW THE JOINT'LL BE AS FULL OF CORPSES AS A CEMETARY!



GOSH! THE ARMY'LL SHOOT ME ON SIGHT AND THIS GUY'LL KILL ME IN A MINUTE IF I TRY TO GET AWAY. I'LL HAVE TO STRING ALONG WITH HIM AND WATCH FOR MY CHANCE!



TOO HOO! MEANWHILE CLANCY! THAT DUMB FLATFOOT... HEY! WHO'S THERE?



J. JOE? WHATCHA DOIN' HERE? THE GUY WITH YOUR MEAT TRUCK, SAID YOU WERE TIED UP I THOUGHT....



MEAT? POISON? WOW! YOU MEAN HE POISONED THE...



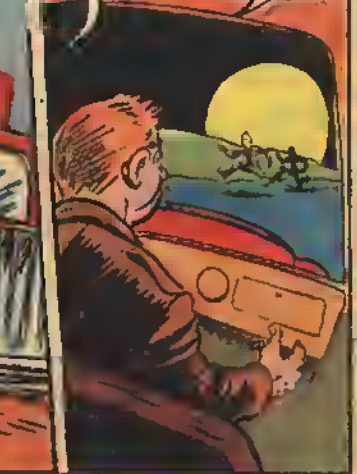
HOLY HAT! I GOTTA GET BACK TO CAMP. THEY MAY BE DISHING IT UP NOW!



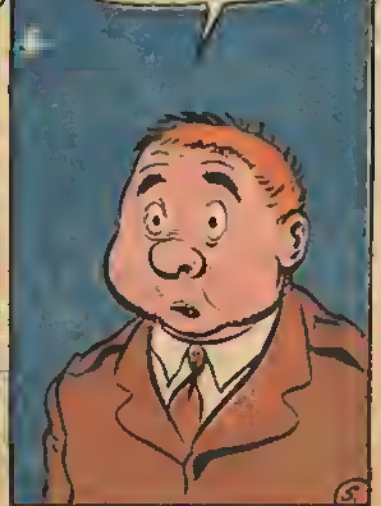
MEANWHILE, SCHMERKAS AND CLANCY HAVE REPAIRED THE TRUCK AND ARE ROARING ALONG THE HIGHWAY.....



HAP A SOLDIER! I DON'T LIKE SOLDIERS! WATCH ME RUN HIM DOWN!



OMIGOSH!! IT'S LOONEY! H-H-E'LL BE SQUASHED, SURE AS SHOOTIN'!





HE! HE! HE!
LOOK AT 'EM RUN!
BUT WE'LL CATCH
UP, AN' WHEN
WE DO.....!

WHAT'S THE
MATTER WITH THAT
GUY? IS HE NUTS?

NAW! THAT'S
THE GUY WITH
MY TRUCK!



NO! NO! YOU
CRACKPOT! YOU
CAN'T KILL MY
PAL!

HAY! LAY OFF
THE WHEEL! A CRAZY
DOPE! A WANT US
TO GET HOIT?



CRASH!



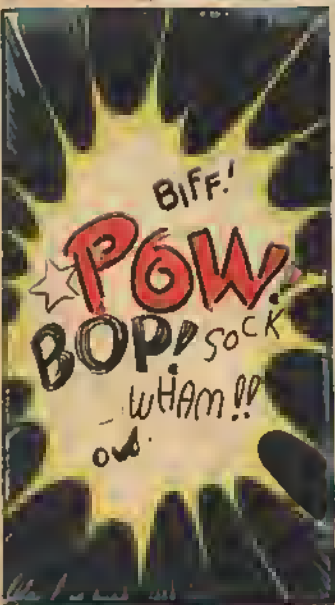
CLANCY!
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

YEAH! LET
ME OUT OF
HERE! THIS
GUY'S A POISONIN'
FOOL!

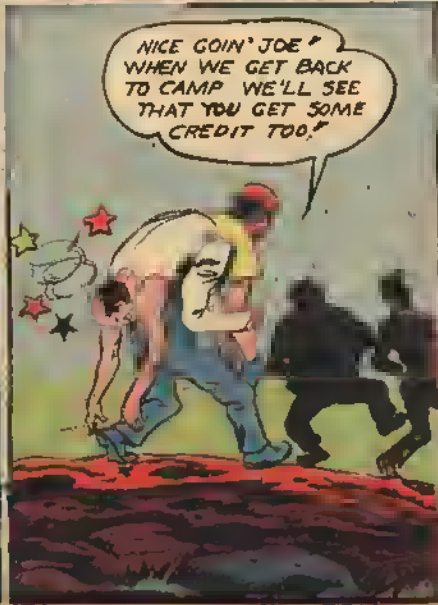


LEMME AT 'IM!
THE DIRTY CROOK!
HE LIED! HE
SAID HE WAS
N'T A SOLDIER!

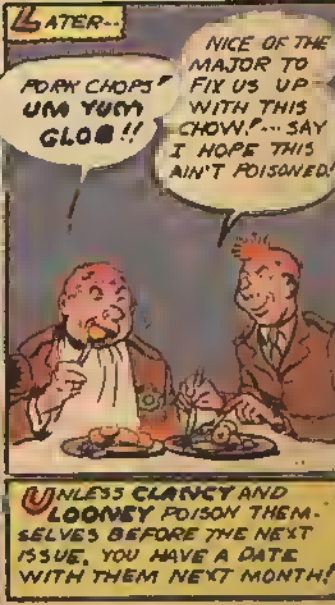
ME AND YOU
GOT SOME
BUSINESS
TO SETTLE
FIRST! SWIPE
MY TRUCK,
WILL YUH?



BIFF!
POW!
BOOM!
WHAM!!



NICE GOIN' JOE!
WHEN WE GET BACK
TO CAMP WE'LL SEE
THAT YOU GET SOME
CREDIT TOO!



LATER...

FORK CHOPS!
UM YUM
GLOB!!

NICE OF THE
MAJOR TO
FIX US UP
WITH THIS
CHOW!... SAY
I HOPE THIS
AIN'T POISONED!

UNLESS CLANCY AND
LOONEY POISON THEM-
SELVES BEFORE THE NEXT
ISSUE, YOU HAVE A DATE
WITH THEM NEXT MONTH!

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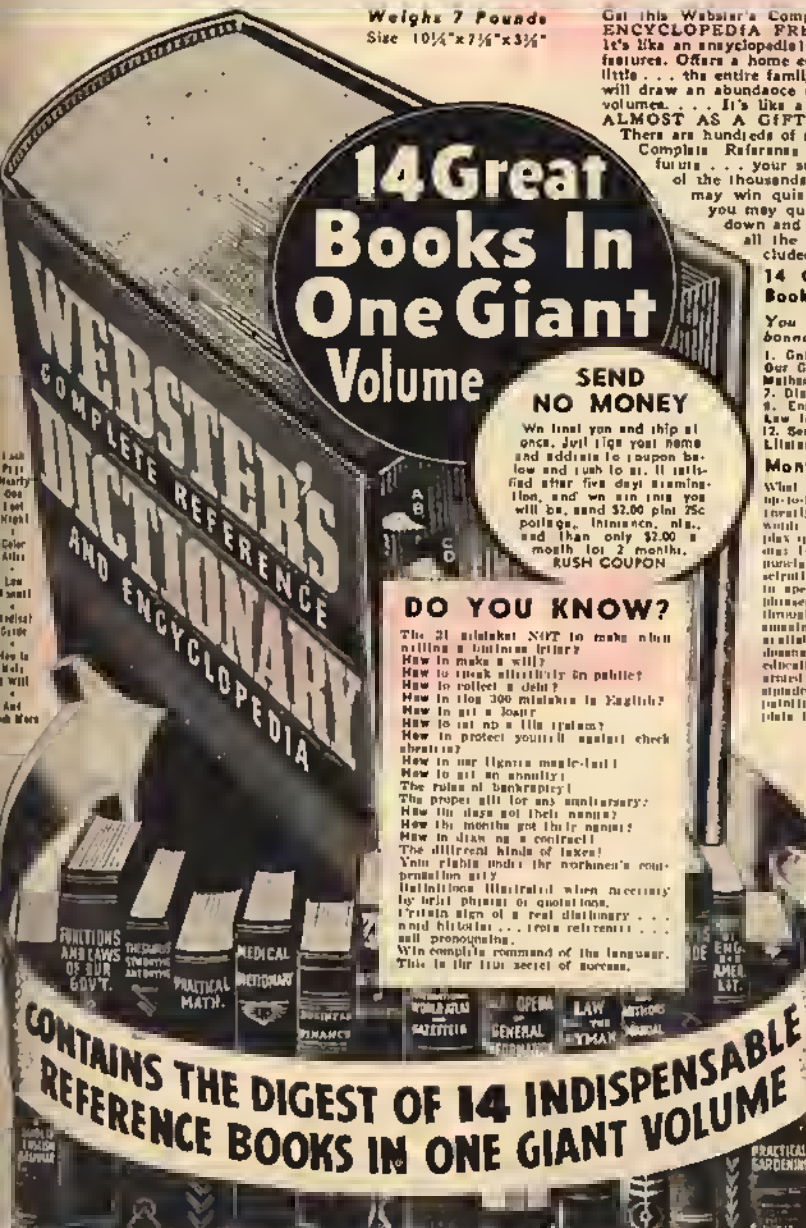
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